

Poster inside ... and a special Independence Day message.

The Official U.S. Army Magazine

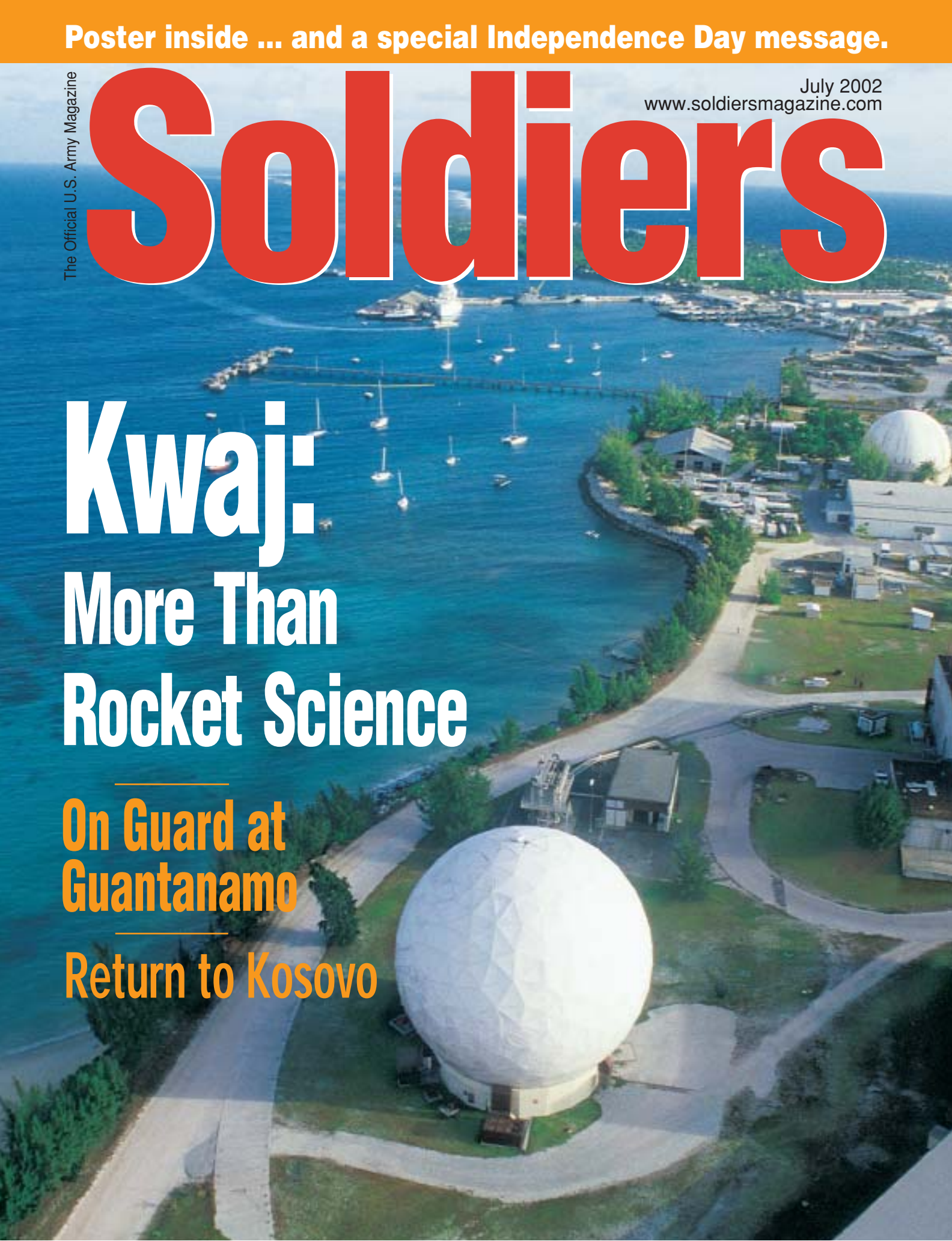
July 2002
www.soldiersmagazine.com

Soldiers

Kwaj: More Than Rocket Science

On Guard at
Guantanamo

Return to Kosovo



Soldiers

July 2002 Volume 57, No. 7



The Official U.S. Army Magazine

Secretary of the Army: Thomas E. White
Chief of Staff: GEN Eric K. Shinseki
Chief of Public Affairs: MG Larry D. Gottardi
Chief, Command Information: COL Stephen T. Campbell

Soldiers Staff

Editor in Chief: LTC John E. Suttle
Managing Editor: Gil High
Production Editor: Steve Harding
Art Director: Helen Hall VanHoose
Associate Art Director: Paul Henry Crank
Senior Editor: Heike Hasenauer
Associate Editor: SFC Lisa Beth Snyder
Photo Editor: SSG Alberto Betancourt
Photographer: Paul Disney
Special Products Editor: Beth Reece
Graphic Designer: LeRoy Jewell
Executive Secretary: Joseph T. Marsden

Printing: Gateway Press, Inc.

Soldiers (ISSN 0093-8440) is published monthly under supervision of the Army Chief of Public Affairs to provide the Total Army with information on people, policies, operations, technical developments, trends and ideas of and about the Department of the Army. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. ■ Manuscripts of interest to Army personnel are invited. Direct communication is authorized to Editor, **Soldiers**, 9325 Gunston Road, Suite S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581. Phone: DSN 656-4486 or commercial (703) 806-4486. Or send e-mail to soldiers@belvoir.army.mil. ■ Unless otherwise indicated (and except for "by permission" and copyright items), material may be reprinted provided credit is given to **Soldiers** and the author. ■ All photographs by U.S. Army except as otherwise credited.

■ Military distribution: From the U.S. Army Distribution Operations Facility, 1655 Woodson Road, St. Louis, MO 63114-6181, in accordance with Initial Distribution Number (IDN) 050007 subscription requirements submitted by commanders. ■ The Secretary of the Army has determined that the publication of this periodical is necessary in the transaction of the public business as required by law of the department. ■ Use of funds for printing this publication was approved by the Secretary of the Army on Sept. 2, 1986, in accordance with the provisions of Army Regulation 25-30. Library of Congress call number: U1.A827. ■ Periodicals postage paid at Fort Belvoir, VA, and additional mailing offices. ■ Individual domestic subscriptions are available at \$36 per year through the Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. For credit card orders call (202) 512-1800 or FAX (202) 512-2250. ■ To change addresses for individual subscriptions, send your mailing label with changes to: Superintendent of Documents, Mail Stop SSOM, Washington, DC 20402. ■ POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Fort Belvoir address above.

www.soldiersmagazine.com

SOLDIERS

4 On Guard at Guantanamo

Soldiers serving at Camp X-ray in Cuba undertake a range of missions, but none more important than guarding Taliban and al-Qaeda detainees.

8 High-Tech Guard Duty

Soldiers from the Texas-based 4th Infantry Division — the Army's "digital division" — are using some advanced systems to help secure Camp X-ray and the detainees it houses.



FEATURES

14 The Other Afghan Campaign

U.S. soldiers were among those aiding Afghan civilians following a massive earthquake.

16 National Guard Update

As the nation prepares to celebrate Independence Day, Guard soldiers continue to serve the nation at home and abroad.

20 The Reserve's Continuing Commitment

Army Reservists are also continuing to support ongoing operations around the globe.

24 U.S. Northern Command Debuts in October

A new command will bolster the nation's homeland-defense efforts.



14



26



42

BRINGING PEACE TO HONDURAS

AT GUANTANAMO



Way Cool Poster Inside

26 Return to Kosovo

The May arrival of 1st Infantry Division units in the Balkans marked the division's return to Task Force Falcon for the first time since its elements left the beleaguered country in December 2000.

28 Kwajalein: More Than Rocket Science

Life is never dull for the soldiers and civilians living and working on Kwajalein Atoll — site of the United States' premier missile test range.

42 Bringing Health to Honduras

Patients come from far and wide when JTF-Bravo medical teams set up shop in rural villages.

46 The Return of the Service Flag

A nearly forgotten tradition that honors military personnel in times of war and conflict is making a comeback all over the country.

49 Independence Day Message

The secretary and chief of staff of the Army reflect on July 4 and the nature of freedom.

DEPARTMENTS

- 2 Feedback
- 10 Briefings
- 22 Focus On People
- 44 Postmarks
- 48 This Is Our Army page



Front cover:

Home to some 1,300 Americans, remote Kwajalein Atoll, in the Central Pacific, is a vital part of the nation's missile-defense efforts. —
Photo by Steve Harding



From the Editor

THE cover of this month's *Soldiers* features an aerial view of one of the Army's best-kept secrets, Kwajalein Atoll. Located 2,100 miles southwest of Honolulu in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Kwajalein offers soldiers and families an opportunity to live and work on a tropical island paradise. Veteran correspondent Steve Harding takes a look at this Pacific island's mission as part of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and shows us what its like to live and work island-style.

On another island, much closer to home, SSG Alberto Betancourt profiles the mission of military police stationed at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. His firsthand observations and never-before-seen photos provide an inside look at this island within an island and showcases the soldiers charged with an important mission — guarding and safeguarding detainees from the war in Afghanistan.

Also in this issue, you'll find updates from the Army National Guard and Army Reserve, as well as a profile of Northern Command.

We hope you find this issue interesting and informative.

John C. Duttle

Guard Stuarts

I ENJOYED the May article "A Tank to Remember" by John Slee and 1LT David Key, but would like to point out an important omission.

The authors forgot to mention that the first time the Stuart saw combat was in the Philippines in 1941, where it was used by the 191st and 192nd Armored battalions of the National Guard. They could have given the National Guard the credit, which is all the more important since all of the members of each of these battalions were captured by the Japanese and many of them did not survive the war.

As a point of interest, there is a Stuart on display at Georgia's Veterans Memorial State Park (near Cordele, Ga.) along with a very good small museum and display park.

MSG Julian D. Shearouse
(Ret.)
via e-mail

Almanac Questions

WHILE recently reading last January's Almanac issue I was dismayed to find the M198 155mm towed howitzer was omitted from the major-equipment listing. Being a battery commander of six M-198s, I was confused about how it could have been left out.

The M198 is a great piece of equipment and deserves good press. If you need a picture for an article, I have many photos from our recent Kosovo deployment with the 10th Mountain Division.

Thank you for your consideration.

CPT Robert Marshall
via e-mail

THOUGH those of us here at *Soldiers* who are former infan-

Thanks for the Memories

I JUST finished reading the May article entitled "Memories of BK" and was very touched.

I was born in Bad Kreuznach in 1961, the daughter of a soldier stationed with the 8th Infantry Division. My father rotated through Germany again in 1965 and 1966, but we did not visit BK.

I have never been back to the city of my birth, and my parents have no pictures from there. To date, the only images I have are on a carved wooden plaque my husband gave me on his return from a recent training exercise at Grafenwöhr.

To read Heike Hasenauer's great article, see the pictures you printed and hear the words of the citizens, especially Beate Streicher, was so nice for me. It was like connecting — just a little bit, but certainly more than I have ever been able to before now — to the town in which I was born. Thank you.

I would love to correspond with someone from BK who knows the history of BK and the military. I was thrilled with your article.

Sincerely and with appreciation,

Tina Summers
via e-mail

YOUR splendid May piece on Bad Kreuznach touched me in many ways. I served with the 8th Inf. Div. from 1971 to 1974, including two years in BK.

Who can forget Frau Streicher? She hasn't changed a bit in the past 26 years. I've gotten a lot older, but she apparently has found the fountain of youth.

Your article was quite wonderful, and I know my wife will enjoy it, too.

Charles Smith
via e-mail

trymen secretly believe that all tube artillery looks alike, we didn't intend to slight the field artillery in general or the M198 in particular. Given the limited space available in the Almanac, we had to limit ourselves to just two tube artillery systems, one towed and one self-propelled. We went with the M119 and M109, respectively, but in the next Almanac we'll make every effort to include the M198.

I JUST wanted to let you know how much I appreciate the e-mail addresses in the Almanac issue — I've been using a lot of them for months — but where was the commercial site www.eArmyHQ.com?

It is an outstanding site with many, many resources that I personally find extremely valuable.

SGT Gladys J. Crum
via e-mail



On Guard at

Story and Photos by
SSG Alberto Betancourt

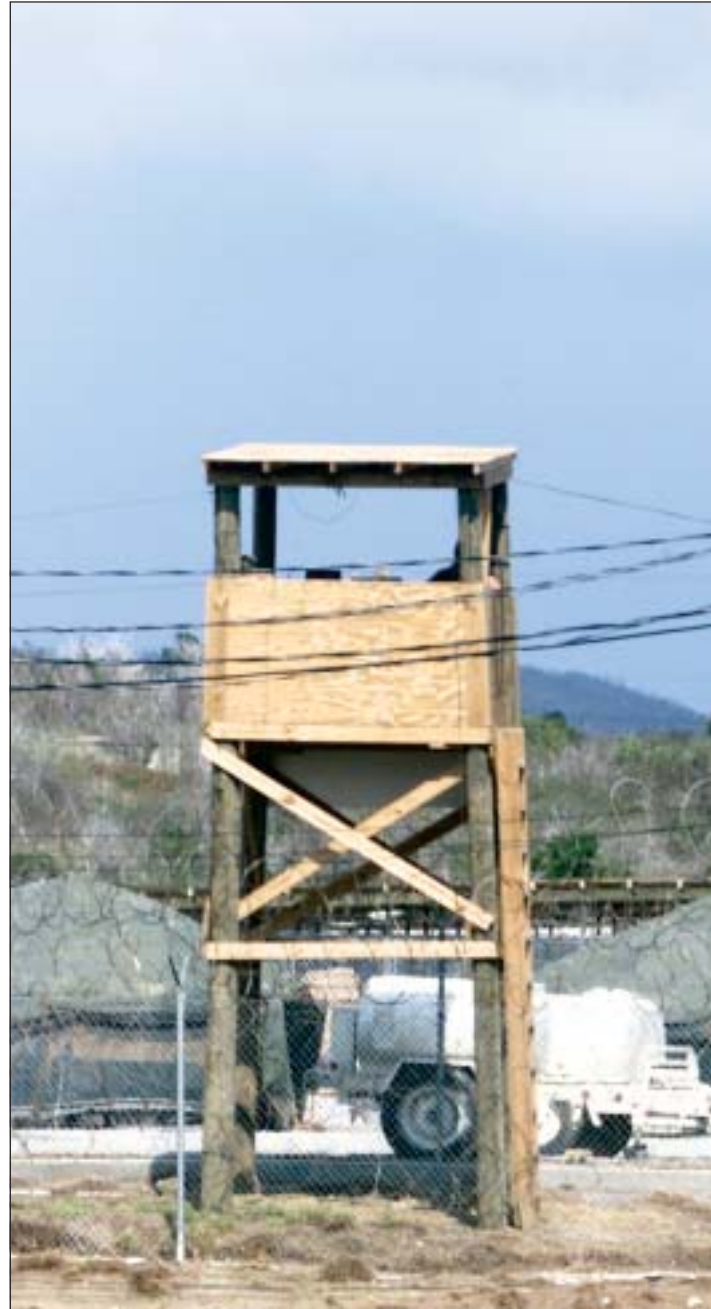
WHEN terrorists attacked the United States on Sept. 11, PV2 Hunter Harshbarger was angry and wanted to immediately join the war on terror. But he couldn't because he was in his sixth week of Basic Combat Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

Four months later Harshbarger's wish came true. However, he wasn't in Afghanistan as he'd originally hoped to be, but face to face with Taliban and al-Qaeda fighters detained at Camp X-ray, at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

"I never expected to go to Cuba," he said. "Now that I'm here, I realize that this mission is as important as the mission other soldiers are doing in Afghanistan to support Operation Enduring Freedom."

Harshbarger, from the 988th Military Police Company at Fort Benning, Ga., arrived in Cuba in January to support Joint Task Force-160.

CPT Darrell Sides, commander of the 988th, said that JTF-160's mission is to take custody of designated detainees at the aerial point of embarkation in Kandahar, Afghanistan, from Central Command personnel. The detainees are then transported to a temporary detention facility at "Gitmo."



(Right) The Camp X-ray facility at Guantanamo Bay houses suspected Taliban and al-Qaeda members. **(Left)** "Gitmo" is in the southeast corner of Cuba, some 400 miles from Florida.



*"I never expected to go
is as important as the*

Guantanamo



to Cuba, but now that I'm here, I realize that this mission mission other soldiers are doing in Afghanistan ..."



SGT Jason Rauser of the Fort Benning-based 988th MP Co. patrols the inside perimeter of the interrogation facility.

Although his 80 soldiers support JTF-160, Sides said their mission differs from that of other MPs at Camp X-ray.

“Our main mission is supporting JTF-170’s Joint Interagency Interrogation Facility,” he said.

His soldiers go into Camp X-ray and escort detainees out of the camp one at a time, taking them to one of several interview rooms set-up adjacent to the detention facility. The MPs remain with the detainee while various law-enforcement agents and military-intelligence representatives from all the military branches conduct detailed interviews with the detainee. Once the interview is completed, the MPs take the detainee back to his cell.

“These detainees require more

security than a prisoner sitting on death row,” Sides said. “The people on death row generally want to live. Most of the detainees not only want to die, they want to take somebody with them in the process.”

To ensure proper security, there are three MPs assigned to escort each detainee. An MP is on each side of the detainee while an NCO follows closely in the rear, serving as a third set of eyes and communication coordinator with other MPs who guard the detainees inside the facility.

“It takes approximately 10 minutes to get through all the gates inside the

JTF-160 commander BG Rick Baccus addresses the detainees as Navy chaplain Lt. Abuhenia Mohammed looks on.



Most of the detainees not only want to die, somebody with them in the process.”

detention facility before reaching the interview room,” Sides said.

Because of the uniqueness of the mission in Cuba, the 988th soldiers went through additional training, including cross-training with the infantry.

“We trained in various nonlethal tactics before departing Fort Benning,” said SSG John Barnett. “We’ve also been developing training here as the mission continues.”

Sides said he only has half his company with him in Cuba supporting JTF-160, but all his soldiers have actively supported the nation’s war on terrorism by providing security in different locations.

“One of my platoons was deployed to the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pa., in September,” he said. “Another platoon went to the Pentagon in December.”

The Fort Benning MPs are splitting their tasking between the two platoons. Each platoon works 14 hours a day for two consecutive days, then they’re off for two days.

Living in Freedom Heights, a tent city on a small hill overlooking Camp X-ray, the 988th soldiers are in a tactical environment. When they get time off, they can travel three miles down the road and find



(Above) JTF-160 soldiers assigned to Camp X-ray live in a tent city called “Freedom Heights.”

(Left) Soldiers of the 4th Inf. Div. were the first to live at Camp Alpha, the new quarters for troops supporting JTF-160 at Guantanamo Bay.

(Below) Civilian construction workers walk past the new detention facility that will replace Camp X-ray.



they want to take

themselves in a garrison environment where the aqua waters of the Caribbean Sea and Atlantic Ocean invite them in.

“Gitmo has great morale-support facilities,” said Barnett. “Our soldiers have had the opportunity to scuba dive, snorkel, water ski and take part in other water activities.”

But when it’s time to go back to work, the MPs become focused and are serious about their mission.

“I still remember how I felt on Sept. 11,” Harshbarger said. “But we keep our emotions to ourselves. Our company motto is ‘Fair, Firm and Professional.’ We treat the detainees like humans, but we also use every measure to protect ourselves.”

Sides said he’s proud of his soldiers and expects to be part of JTF-160 for at least six months.

“We’re part of JTF-160 working to support JTF-170,” he said. “And JTF-170’s mission is to gather information to prevent further terrorist acts against Americans. This is a very serious mission.” □



Soldiers of the 4th Inf. Div. trained on search techniques before assuming the external security mission at Camp X-ray.

High-Tech Guard Duty

**Story By MSG Debra Bingham
Photos by SSG Alberto Betancourt**



SGT Shelton Gore and SPC Larry Watters of the 988th MP Co. man a guard shack inside the Joint Interagency Interrogation Facility.



SOLDIERS from the Fort Hood, Texas-based 4th Infantry Division recently deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to provide security for the camp that houses al-Qaeda and Taliban detainees.

The deployment of the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, also known as "Task Force Regulars," marked the first time in 10 years that the unit had deployed outside of the United States, battalion members said.

The soldiers are conducting patrols, providing a quick-reaction capability and escorting the detainees, who arrive in-theater by air, said task force commander MAJ Brian Reed.

Being part of the Army's "digital division" means the TF Regulars use some unique equipment to help them conduct their mission, Reed said.

"The Force 21 Battlefield Command Brigade and Below system, or FBCB2, gives us a comprehensive picture of the operational area," Reed said. "We can track the progress of convoys and monitor observation points, and communicate over a secure network."

The infantrymen also have the Long Range Advanced Scout Surveillance System, a sensor with thermal capability and a sighting system that can zoom in on objects more than 20 kilometers away.

"We've transitioned to a nonlethal-based mission in Cuba. It requires a change of mindset, so we've trained with the MPs on nonlethal means of controlling situations," said CPT Jason Westbrook, commander of Company B, 1st Bn., 22nd Inf.

Before heading to Cuba, the TF Regulars took part in specialized training at Fort Hood. Formal instruction and hands-on training at the Military Operations on Urbanized Terrain complex added a touch of realism.

With mock city buildings and burned buses as a backdrop, the soldiers learned squad and platoon movements, self-defense tactics and riot-control techniques. They also picked up some new equipment — riot helmets and shields, and batons.

Then they suited up and faced a group of "rioters" to test themselves and their new skills.

The skills the TF Regulars learned will serve them well, Reed said.

"Eleven years ago we had a Cold War focus. We've expanded our mission horizon since then with Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia and Kosovo. Now, with the war on terrorism, we need to be able to respond to a different contingency. We're not purely warfighters, we also have to exercise restraint and focus on the humanitarian side," Reed said.

"We are taking part in the nation's war against terrorism," he added. "We're not just training anymore." □

MSG Debra Bingham works with the 4th Infantry Division PAO.



CPL Angel Murillo of 1st Bn., 22nd Inf., barks out commands during one of the several training sessions 4th Inf. Div. soldiers underwent.



Operation Noble Eagle

At press time approximately 29,000 Army National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers had been called to active duty and continued to provide security at facilities around the country.

On May 31, National Guard troops ended their mission at more than 400 airports.

Two Department of Defense artists memorialized the military and civilian victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon with a black and silver interior memorial that features the names, photos and biographies of the 184 people killed.

All service members, including Coast Guard members, who were on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001, are eligible to wear the National Defense Service Medal.

Operation Enduring Freedom

U.S. and coalition forces in Afghanistan continue searching along the border with Pakistan for al-Qaeda and former Taliban forces.

An Army three-star general assumed command of Joint Task Force-Afghanistan, which will consolidate operations in the country under one umbrella.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld met with U.S. troops and Afghan leaders during a five-day trip to Central Asia.

SPC Christopher Stanits



U.S. and Canadian troops at Bagram Air Base pass a sign honoring SPC Jason A. Disney, who died in an industrial accident.

U.S. soldiers join Canadian troops at a service held at Kandahar Airfield to mourn the deaths of four members of the 3rd Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group killed in a training accident.

SPC George Allen



After visiting the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld conferred with Afghan leaders at the capital city's presidential palace. Rumsfeld also visited U.S. troops stationed at Bagram Air Base.



Staff Sgt. James B. Connolly Jr., USMC

SGT Kevin P. Bell



A special forces soldier issues an Afghan recruit new uniforms and equipment in Kabul. SF soldiers have been helping to train and equip the new Afghan National Army, which is made up of men drawn from all of the nation's ethnic groups.

LTC Walter E. Piatt (left) and SGM Burnie Haney of Coalition JTF-Mountain accept a New York state flag from the NY Army National Guard's chief chaplain, Rabbi Jacob Z. Goldstein (right).



SGT Dave Marck Jr.



A hazardous-materials specialist with the 2nd Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team from Scotia, N.Y., analyzes a sample taken in Yankee Stadium.

New York

WMD Teams Respond to HAZMAT Threats

AS OF APRIL, 27 certified Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Teams had been activated and were engaged in missions around the country. Five more teams have been authorized and are in the planning stages. The joint teams, which include full-time Army and Air National Guard members, react to suspected nuclear, biological or chemical incidents and help protect possible targets within their assigned Federal Emergency Management Agency regions.

The 2nd WMD-CST responds to incidents in FEMA Region 2, which includes New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The team's mission is to identify substances, assess consequences and advise civilian first-responders. It also facilitates requests for additional federal and state assets.

The team conducted air sampling at the World Trade Center site, responding within

hours of the Sept. 11 attack. Since then, it has assisted New York City emergency-management agencies at such events as the New York City marathon, the American League playoff and World Series games at Yankee Stadium last year, and the season opener at Yankee Stadium in April.

Using sophisticated equipment and a mobile analytical laboratory, team members can take solid, liquid or air samples and test them for chemical or biological substances. They can also do rapid DNA sampling and chemical analysis to identify potential toxic substances. Team members explained they don't routinely set up a decontamination site on a precautionary mission, but do have that capability.

Acting commander MAJ Kaarlo Hietala said hazardous-material control expertise is in high demand since Sept. 11 and the subsequent anthrax attacks through the mail, but most emergency services agencies have competing priorities.

"It's hard for any agency to focus on HAZMAT alone," he said. "For us, it's a full-time job.

I think that's what really separates us." — *SFC Kathleen T. Rhem, American Forces Press Service*

Alexandria, Va.

ASK SAM for Assignment Preferences

A NEW computer program called the Soldier Assignment Module, or SAM, encourages soldiers to "ASK" for their future duty assignments. The Assignment Satisfaction Key is the enlisted soldiers' portion of SAM, which allows them to stipulate assignment choices instead of waiting for the Army to make those choices for them, said officials at U.S. Total Army Personnel Command.

The PERSCOM officials said SAM is used by enlisted assignment managers to de-

termine who is eligible for a particular assignment. "But SAM also engages soldiers in the assignment process, giving them a voice and some control over their career paths," said MSG Thomas Gills of PERSCOM's enlisted distribution division.

SAM was designed to collect reassignment data so that enlisted assignment managers can make decisions using all available data, said Gills. Soldiers fill out an online form, stating their assignment preferences and their home and e-mail addresses.

However, SAM also works without soldier input, which means that if a soldier doesn't use ASK, he or she will be assigned solely on the needs of the Army, said SGM Oscar Garcia, ordnance branch sergeant major.

Excellence Awards

Communities Are Honored for Improvements

THE 417th Base Support Battalion in Kitzingen, Germany, is this year's Army Communities of Excellence and the Army Commander in Chief's Award winner for Installation Excellence. Fort McCoy, Wis., earned second-place honors in this year's competition. Winners were chosen for their continuous improvement in the ways in which they work with their customers, partners and suppliers.

As the ACOE award winner, the 417th BSB received \$1 million in prize money, a silver trophy and an ACOE flag. As the Army winner of the CINC award, the battalion received a plaque, an installation excellence flag and a congratulatory letter from President George W. Bush. Fort McCoy received \$250,000 in prize money. Award money will be used for installation improvement.

Other finalists in this year's competition included the 7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson, Colo.; 10th Area Support Group, Torii Station, Okinawa, Japan; 20th ASG, Area IV, Korea; Iowa Army National Guard; Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.; U.S. Army Aviation Center, Fort Rucker, Ala.; U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico and White Sands Missile Range, N.M. — *Army News Service*

SAM looks at 33 assignment rules, such as time on station, MOS, rank and volunteer status for assignment. Then the program creates an availability list from ASK data, placing PCS-eligible volunteers at the top of the list. If a soldier wants to go somewhere that is not available but a similar assignment is open, managers can e-mail the soldier and offer the alternate assignment, Gills said.

To find ASK, log on to AKO and go to Frequently Used Links and click on Assignment Satisfaction Key. Soldiers must use their AKO login information to use ASK. — *SFC Lisa Beth Snyder*

Heidelberg, Germany

USAREUR Improves Service to Newcomers

SPONSORSHIP Gateway to Europe, better known as S-GATE, is a web-based program that eases incoming soldiers' transition to Europe and makes sponsoring those soldiers easier.

"S-GATE provides soldiers and units a multitude of information at the click of a mouse," said project manager MAJ Kimberley Sinclair, describing the kind of information and assistance the program offers.

"Soldiers can learn of their 'pinpoint' assignment, get information to help make family travel decisions, get community information or communicate by e-mail with their sponsors," she said. "It provides a 'one-stop shop' for information concerning the assignment and a simple means of contacting the unit."

The incoming soldier's main source of information in S-GATE is the "soldier page," <https://www.sgate.>

hqusareur.army.mil, which can be accessed from a computer that is part of a military network, Sinclair said. Newcomers start here to find who their sponsors are and how to contact them. The soldier page also includes the pinpoint assignment, a welcome letter, a needs-assessment checklist and links to other useful regulatory information and USAREUR Web sites.

More information about the Sponsorship Gateway to Europe link is available at www.1perscom.army.mil. — *USAREUR Public Affairs Office*

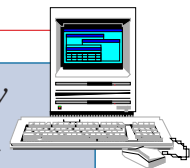
Washington

AKO E-mail Use Increases

SINCE Army senior leaders mandated that soldiers and civilian employees sign up last year, Army Knowledge Online accounts have increased from 170,000 to more than 900,000.

"AKO is adding about 2,500 new users a day," said Harold Tucker, AKO systems architect. "In addition, since the AKO-account directive, we've seen daily portal usage rise from about 5,000 user sessions to 70,000."

Access the Army Knowledge Online portal at www.us.army.mil



Using an AKO e-mail address doesn't mean soldiers surrender their current military or commercial e-mail accounts. In fact, with AKO's forwarding rule, e-mails from "us.army.mil" addresses can be automatically forwarded to any other e-mail address a user selects, AKO officials explained. They said users can do this by clicking on the "personalize" button after they log on, and then choosing "user profile." — *ARNEWS*

Washington

DOD Cancels Crusader

SAYING that it was a case of balancing resources needed to fight the war on terrorism with resources needed to transform to the future force, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld announced in May that the Crusader weapons system program has been officially terminated. Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz said a budget amendment will redirect Crusader funding to other Army Transformation programs.

At the time of its cancellation the Crusader program had become the subject for speculation in the news media after Army documents supporting Crusader had been circulated among members of Congress. Kenneth A. Steadman, principal deputy of the Office of Congressional Legislative Liaison, later accepted responsibility for the unauthorized release of the documents and has since resigned his post.

Crusader had been planned as the replacement for the M109A6 Paladin self-propelled howitzer. But Wolfowitz said the proposed Crusader system was not light enough or precise enough to meet DOD's transformation objectives. — *ARNEWS*



The cancellation of the Crusader system will result in the redirection of released funds to other Army Transformation programs.

The OTHE

Story by CPL Holly Plata

Photos by SPC George Allen

THREE CH-47 Chinook helicopters swooped in to Nahrin, a small town of adobe buildings in the Baghlan province of Afghanistan.

As the local people ran from the dust clouds generated by the helicopters, soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division jumped out of the Chinooks, formed a perimeter around the aircraft and secured the landing zone.

Civil-affairs soldiers stood by with a team of 30 Afghan workers, ready to unload much-needed supplies for the earthquake-stricken village where 700 people were confirmed dead.

BG David Kratzer, commander of the Coalition Joint Civil-Military Operations Task Force — and deputy commanding general of the 377th Theater Support Command, an Army Reserve unit from New Orleans, La. — sent his soldiers to help soon after hearing of the disaster.

Initially, the Kabul-based CJCMOTF sent out its immediate-reaction force and four of its medical staff to assess the situation.

The CJCMOTF Public Health Team met with the Afghan minister of public health, Dr. Sohila Sedqui, and

CPL Holly Plata and SPC George Allen are deployed in Afghanistan with the 314th Press Camp Headquarters



(Above) A 101st Airborne Div. soldier pulls security near a CH-47 Chinook that carried emergency relief supplies to Nahrin.

(Left) Another 101st soldier helps Afghan villagers unload supplies. These included food, tents and blankets.



R AFGHAN CAMPAIGN

They unloaded thousands of supply items, including 380 duffel bags full of cold-weather clothing, 125 cases of dates, 154 five-gallon containers of water, 1,238 cases of bottled water, 261 bags of wheat, 420 cases of MREs and 95 boxes of blankets ...



An Afghan man carries one of the bags of wheat delivered to Nahrin by the Chinook in the background. The supplies were vital to the survivors of the earthquake, which killed more than 700 people in Nahrin.

her team to provide food, medical supplies and other equipment that was most urgently needed.

“We coordinated with the United Nations to let them know we were coming in to deliver goods for distribution,” said SFC Michael France, a Reservist with the 489th CA Battalion, from Knoxville, Tenn. “As the needs of the people changed, we called back to have the items in a particular shipment changed en route.”

“I was in charge of a team of Afghans hired to help off-load the CH-47s,” said SPC Larry Sellers of the 489th CA Bn.

Soldiers from his unit worked with the Afghans for three days. Often, they communicated with basic hand signals to breach the language barrier.

It worked out well, Sellers said. Together they unloaded thousands of supply items, including 380 duffel bags full of cold-weather clothing, 125 cases of dates, 154 five-gallon containers of water, 1,238 cases of bottled water, 261 bags of wheat, 420 cases of MREs and 95 boxes of blankets. They

also distributed tents to provide temporary shelter to those left homeless by the quake.

Additionally, the CA team delivered 1,980 pounds of basic medical supplies, 792 pounds of infusion materials, 528 pounds of drugs, 242 pounds of reusable medical supplies and other medical equipment.

During its first day on the ground, the team cared for some 400 patients.

“It was a lot of hard work, but I believe what we did will help the people of Afghanistan,” said MAJ David Floyd, a medical-service officer with 3rd Medical Command, from Bluff Park, Ala.

When the soldiers left, they turned supplies over to nongovernmental aid organizations that continued to provide disaster relief in and around Nahrin. □



The earthquake destroyed or damaged most structures in Nahrin, so the tents delivered by the Army Chinooks were essential in protecting survivors from the elements.



*As the nation
prepares to
celebrate
Independence
Day, Guard
soldiers continue
to serve the
nation at home
and abroad.*

The National Guard

Story by Renee McElveen

WHEN Americans celebrate Independence Day this year, they'll have a renewed sense of appreciation for the real meaning of freedom in this country, said LTG Roger C. Schultz, director of the Army National Guard.

The events of Sept. 11 opened our eyes to the fact that freedom comes at a price, he said. And it all begins with individuals willing to serve their country.

As the nation prepares to celebrate the 226th anniversary of its independence, Schultz drew several parallels between the Army National Guard's Minuteman soldier of the Revolutionary War period and the soldier of the 21st century.

The desire to serve — whether it be in the uniformed services or in an organization that helps citizens through

volunteerism — has been an integral part of life in America for generations, Schultz said.

"Today, some people still set aside their lives for service to others," he said. "They put the interests of others ahead of their own. They still volunteer."

And a soldier's loyalties remain the same: loyalty to the nation, to the Army and to fellow soldiers, Schultz said.

He's especially proud of the team of Army National Guard soldiers, and the families and employers who so unselfishly continue to support them. Because of their support, accomplishing the Army's mission is possible, he said.

"Our soldiers are on duty around the world," he added. "They're on the team that's making a difference."

As of April 2002, 32,374 of the Army National Guard's 350,944

soldiers were serving the country full time, at home and abroad. Today, the percentage of mobilized Guard soldiers serving the nation ranges from a low of one percent to a high of 18 percent in Maryland, Schultz said.

Maryland is one of five states that have units in the 29th Infantry Division, which returned to the United States in April after a six-month



Guard soldiers are serving the nation in a variety of roles, including as members of deployed peacekeeping forces.

Renee McElveen is a staff writer for the National Guard Bureau.



By April, more than 32,000 National Guard soldiers were on full-time duty at home and overseas.

Update

deployment to Bosnia, Schultz said. The 29th Div. also has units in Virginia, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Connecticut.

Nearly 650 Guard soldiers from Indiana, Montana, Idaho, Wisconsin, South Dakota and Hawaii are serving under the Active Component Army Headquarters element of the 25th Inf. Div., which is on duty in Bosnia. The Pennsylvania Army Guard's 28th Inf. Div. will succeed the 25th in Bosnia, Schultz said.

Soldiers from the 28th Div. will be activated into federal service in late July, and will train in the United States and Germany before deploying to Bosnia, he said. Near the end of 2002, the division will command the Multinational Division-North, headquartered at Eagle Base, outside Tuzla. It will complete its six-month rotation in 2003.

"Our soldiers feel good about what

they're doing," Schultz said. "They understand that they're making a contribution and a difference."

Helping others is just one reason people choose to serve in the Army Guard, Schultz said. Duty in the Guard offers men and women the opportunity to be part of a first-class team as they serve their country. In addition, soldiers learn many personal skills that apply to duty both in and out of uniform. They learn about themselves and, more importantly, how to lead others, he said.

Guard soldiers enjoy higher pay as they advance through the ranks, as well as incentives and benefits that include re-enlistment bonuses, tuition assistance and student-loan repayment.

Schultz said Guard units were well trained and prepared when they responded to the events of Sept. 11. Guard soldiers from New York and Pennsylvania arrived at the terrorist-

attack sites within hours of the attacks, while Maryland troops were on duty at the Pentagon by dawn on Sept. 12.

The Guard soldiers live and work in the communities in which they serve, Schultz added. As the Guard continues to perform homeland-security missions, the presence of its soldiers in communities across the nation becomes increasingly more important.

As a community-based force, the Guard remains ready to protect American citizens, Schultz said. But the war on terrorism isn't confined to terrorists in our country; it's a global war waged against terrorists in other countries as well, and the Guard is engaged on both counts.

To prepare for its next generation of missions, Schultz said, the organization has to be willing to change. "It has to be willing to transform, and we are," he said. □

Specialist **Scott Dignan** Military Police. **AN ARMY OF ONE.**SM U.S. Army Reserve.

WHEN IT COMES TO STRENGTH & SECURITY,
AMERICA HAS THE WORLD'S GREATEST RESERVES.



AN ARMY OF ONESM

If you're looking to make a difference, this is the time. And the Army Reserve is the place.
You won't just be protecting our shores. You'll be setting a proud example for the entire nation.

1-800-USA-ARMY
GOARMYRESERVE.COM

©2002. Paid for by the United States Army. All rights reserved.



*Some 470
Army Reserve
units and about
15,000 Army
Reservists are
supporting ongoing
operations
around the
globe.*

The Reserve's Conti

Story by LTC Randy Pullen and CPT Rebecca P. Leggieri

LTG Thomas J. Plewes stepped down as chief of the Army Reserve in May 2002, ending a 36-year career of active and Reserve service. Before he retired he was interviewed for an update on the Reserve's response in the global war against terrorism.

The effective response of the Army Reserve in the war on terrorism can be attributed to the readiness, experience and dedication of Army Reservists, Plewes said.

"The attention that we paid to improving our readiness over the last decade has paid great dividends," he added. "When we've mobilized organizations, we've been able to ensure that the maximum number of soldiers are ready and available."

Seven months after the Sept. 11 attacks, some 470 Army Reserve units

and about 15,000 Army Reservists were supporting ongoing operations around the globe.

Among the soldiers was a large contingent of military police, for force protection both in the United States and overseas, Plewes said. Another large group came from military-intelligence units and such organizations as mortuary affairs and biological detection. Other Reservists were pulled from civil and public affairs, psychological operations, transportation and headquarters-augmentation units.

Today, Army Reservists are on the ground in Afghanistan, supporting combat operations and helping the Afghans rebuild their country after decades of war, Plewes said.

Earlier, an Army Reserve unit deployed to Germany to help prepare for airdrop operations that brought food, supplies and medical equipment to Afghanistan.

Reserve MPs are safeguarding installations in the United States and guarding detainees at Camp X-ray, in Cuba. And soldiers with expertise in nuclear, chemical and biological



Like many Army Reservists, Dr. (LTC) Juan DeRojas (right) volunteered for active duty after the Sept. 11 attacks.

LTC Randy Pullen and CPT Rebecca P. Leggieri work in the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve.



Members of the 489th Civil Affairs Battalion were among the many Army Reservists tapped to serve in Afghanistan.

nuing Commitment

weapons are providing early detection capabilities against biological attack for soldiers and civilians alike.

"Everywhere our citizen-soldiers have served and continue to serve, they do so professionally and with great distinction," Plewes said. "GEN Tommy R. Franks, the commander-in-chief of U.S. Central Command, said recently the Reservists supporting his operations 'come trained and ready to do the work.'

"This is a different kind of call-up, in terms of units," Plewes said, comparing the war on terrorism to the Persian Gulf War in which the reserve component played a major role.

The other major difference was in the acceleration of the mobilization process, he said. Units were needed so quickly in the aftermath of Sept. 11 that some were called up and deployed before they were mobilized. Others conducted hasty mobilizations, with

timelines much shorter than any previously used.

Plewes said the Reserve's high level of readiness, its experience in mobilization and deployment, and its soldiers' dedication all contributed to its ability to meet the nation's needs during the war on terrorism at home and abroad.

As an example of the Reserve's experience, Plewes cited civil-affairs units, which have been "involved in everything we've done since Desert Storm, from Somalia to East Timor, and Kosovo and Bosnia in between. The role they are playing in Afghanistan is a very critical one, but it's one we have just come to take naturally.

"The more than 100 civil-affairs soldiers we have on duty in Afghanistan right now have been battle-hardened, from experiences in those previous operations, Plewes said.

Plewes anticipated a continuing

need for the reserve component in America's war on terrorism.

As is true for everything else that the Army is involved in, the new war involves the National Guard and Army Reserve as well, he said.

"The Army is too small to accomplish all the missions it's tasked with. And the Guard and Reserve have much-needed capabilities — because their soldiers possess both civilian skills and military training — that are absolutely necessary in the war on terrorism.

"We'll be involved in a very major way in homeland defense, and in carrying the war on terrorism to the terrorists, wherever they are," Plewes said.

The Army Reserve's challenge now is to continue to develop its soldiers' capabilities by honing the skills they'll need in supporting the active Army in future contingencies, Plewes said. □

Focus on People

Compiled by Heike Hasenauer

WHEN SSG Ezzard Smith joined the Army, he was given a choice of three jobs: infantryman, cook or supply clerk.

"My mother talked me into being a cook; she said that I could cook for the ladies," Smith said. "When I enlisted, I didn't know how to cook. I could only boil water for rice."

Now a member of 3rd Army at Fort McPherson, Ga., Smith is the mess sergeant responsible for feeding some 100 soldiers deployed to the Coalition Joint Civil-Military Operations Task Force compound in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Before he arrived, the only hot meals the soldiers could count on were the MREs they heated for themselves.

Smith serves two hot meals every day. "I know the soldiers miss their mommas' cooking, so I try to give them a little taste of

home," said Smith, who supervises three Afghans in the kitchen. "Language is a barrier, because they speak only a little English. I'm picking up a little Dari, but my progress has been slow."

Being in Afghanistan and working with the Afghans has been an educational experience, Smith said. His co-workers taught him how to prepare a traditional Afghan rice dish that elicited rave reviews from the soldiers. He, in turn, taught the Afghans how to make "hobo coffee," a method of making coffee in the field without a pot.

While he's enjoying the opportunity to bring a little edible comfort to soldiers in the field, Smith said he doesn't have the opportunity to show off what he can really do in a kitchen. That's because he serves mostly military T-rations — prepackaged meals for groups — and canned goods. He's not allowed to buy and serve local foods.

To jazz up the usually bland military food, Smith often adds spices that soldiers have donated, such as Creole seasoning, cinnamon, paprika and garlic, which aren't included with military T-rations.

Sometimes, he surprises soldiers with homemade desserts from canned fruits. "All we do is put on some crust and make it into pie or cobbler. That's called enhancing T-rats," Smith said, with a smile.

He knows good food is a morale booster for deployed soldiers, so he tries to find different ways to present the meals he serves. "People eat with their eyes. When they see something different and it looks

good, they're going to eat," he said. — SPC Tyrone Walker, 314th Press Camp Headquarters

THEY arrived at Fort Drum, N.Y., not knowing each other or what their new jobs would be. Now they're best friends who have just completed their first mission in Afghanistan.

PFCs Arthur Hubble and **Justin Gabhart** of the 10th Mountain Division's Company B, 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, have been best friends for two years.

"When we arrived at the unit, my platoon sergeant decided to make Gabhart and me M-240 machine-gunners," said Hubble. "So we often went to the range together."

Hubble, from St. Cloud, Fla., and Gabhart, from Hutchinson, Kan., understood how important their jobs were during Operation Anaconda in Afghanistan.

The two provided most of the firepower that enabled their platoon to achieve its mission objectives, they said.

"We were responsible for 70 percent of the firepower for the platoon. Our job was to suppress enemy fire and to keep the enemies' heads down, so our riflemen and grenadiers could move forward to the



Smith: Cooking in Kabul
SPC Tyrone Walker

"I know the soldiers miss their mommas' cooking, so I try to give them a little taste of home."

SPC Roderick Turner



objective and assault through,” Gabhart said. “If one of us had gone down, 35 percent of the firepower would have been lost. If both of us had gone down, the rest of the platoon would have been sitting ducks.”

Their friendship helped get them through what they encountered in the mountains of Afghanistan, they said.

Their biggest challenge was staying alive when they were fired upon, the men said.

“It’s a scary feeling knowing you may be killed,” Gabhart said. “But once the bullets start to fly, you forget all about being scared. We watched each other’s backs out there. That’s what friends do for each other.”

Operation Anaconda behind them, the two friends look forward to what lies ahead.

“I’m serving a six-year enlistment, so I’m looking forward to other deployments over the next four years,” Hubble said.

Regardless of what the future brings, the two agree they plan to remain the best of friends. — *SPC Roderick Turner, 314th PCH*

SOLDIERS deployed to the Coalition Joint Civil-Military Operations Task Force in Kabul, Afghanistan, recently got a surprise from home that’s helped to reassure them they are not forgotten.

“I had just returned to Kabul from a mission at Kandahar Air Base, where the ‘Hands for Peace’ art work and other gestures of U.S.- and coalition-nation support are displayed all over the terminal,” said **MAJ Brian Hathaway**. “I felt like the soldiers in Kabul were being forgotten — until our own poster came.”

Hathaway, who’s assigned to Company D, 96th Civil Affairs Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C., is working for the CJCMOTF in Kabul, where he’s contributing to humanitarian-aid efforts.

Kara Carriker, Hathaway’s sister, an elementary school teacher at Windsor Oaks Elemen-

CPL Holly Plata

Hathaway: Showing off kids’ poster.

tary School in Virginia Beach, Va., helped her students make a colorful, cheerful poster of handprint doves with olive branches.

“She wanted to show her support to all of us,” said Hathaway, who also has a brother in the military. The two have been deployed many times in recent years. During the one year that Hathaway’s been married, in fact, he’s been away from home nine months. “My sister’s concerned about that.”

The poster, displayed in the main entrance of Hathaway’s office building, draws daily comments, he said.

“Most of the new soldiers don’t know where it came from, but they all seem to appreciate it. Several people have asked for my sister’s address, so they can write thank-you letters,” he said.

The children who created the poster couldn’t have known the impact it would make on the soldiers so far from home.

“But their work has had a very positive impact on all of us at CJCMOTF. Their artwork is the only visible thing where we’re located that says someone in the United States is thinking about us,” Hathaway said.

To keep up the soldiers’ spirits, Hathaway’s sister said she plans to send 600 letters from her school to CJCMOTF soon. — *CPL Holly Plata, 314th PCH*



Hubble (left) and Gabhart: Best friends in Afghanistan.



“Their artwork is the only visible thing where we’re located that says someone in the United States is thinking about us.”



U.S. Northern Command Debuts

Story by Jim Garamone

in October



USNORTHCOM

THE Department of Defense has announced what it calls the most sweeping changes in the Unified Command Plan since the system was established in 1946.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the plan realigns and streamlines U.S. military structure to better address 21st-century threats. And, for the first time, commanders' areas of operations will cover the entire Earth.

The biggest change in the plan is the creation of U.S. Northern Command, which will stand up Oct. 1, 2002, at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. The NORTHCOM commander will be responsible for homeland defense and will head the joint U.S.-Canada North American Aerospace Defense Command.

Both Rumsfeld and Myers emphasized that DOD's most important mission is to defend the U.S. homeland.

"The changes made to the Unified Command Plan will help us to defend, to transform and to help us stand solidly with our friends and allies across the globe," Rumsfeld said.

Jim Garamone works for the American Forces Press Service in Alexandria, Va.

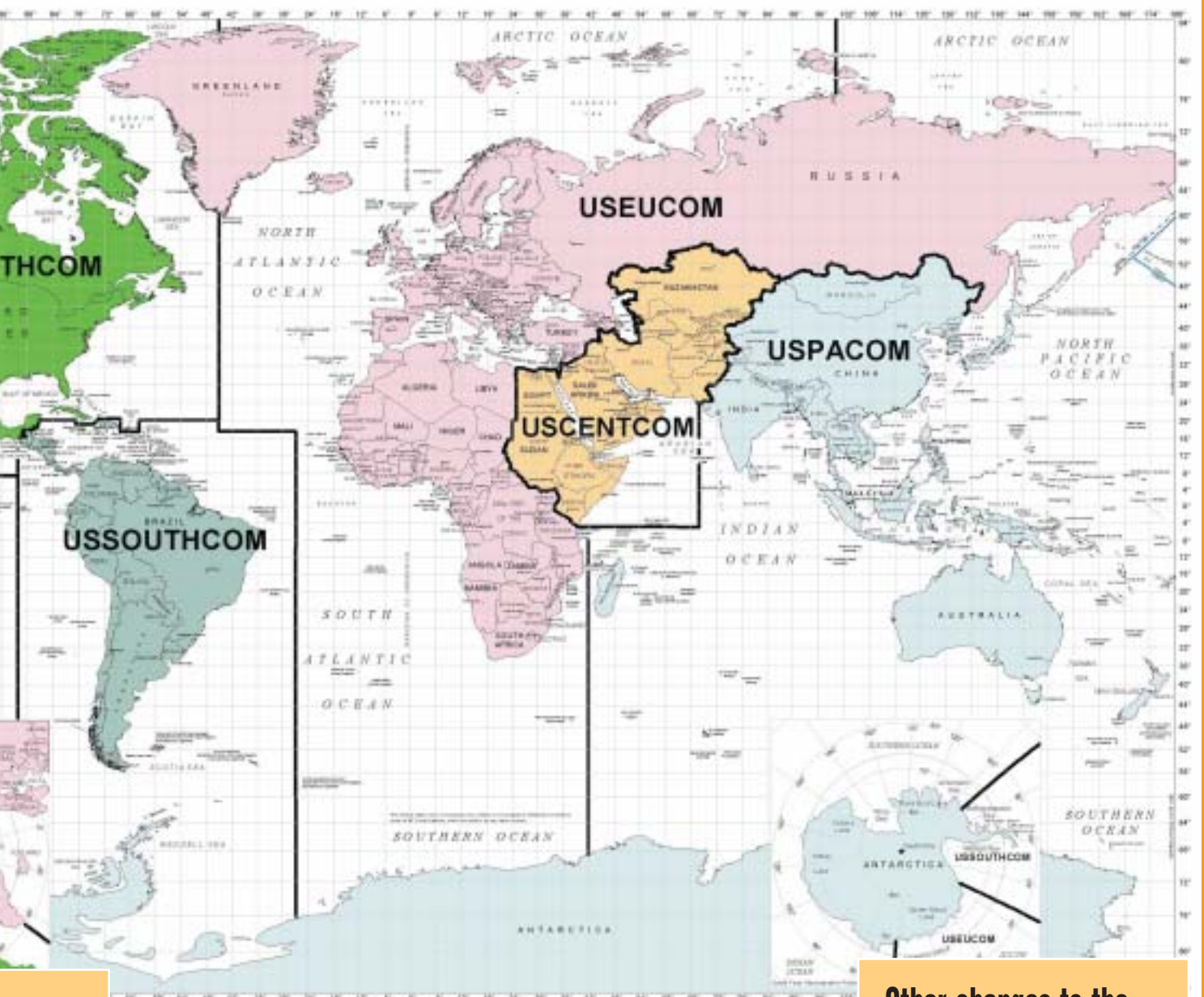
USNORTHCOM

The NORTHCOM commander will be responsible for homeland defense and will head the joint U.S.-Canada North American Aerospace Defense Command.

NORTHCOM's operational area will include the United States, Canada, Mexico, parts of the Caribbean and the contiguous waters of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The new command will support civilian authorities in response to contingencies that include natural disasters, and it will have responsibility for defending U.S. airspace and coastlines, Rumsfeld said.

USEUCOM

U.S. European Command will increase its area of responsibility to include the border of the Atlantic and the U.S. East Coast to the west of Europe, and it will have primary responsibility for the region. This change allows for closer cooperation and coordination between the U.S. and European militaries and more signal that the Cold War relationship is improving," Myers said.



mand will
responsi-
e remain-
area off the
he shores
ill pick up
ty for Rus-
ows more
ordination
and Rus-
d "is one
our post-
ship is im-
id.

USPACOM

U.S. Pacific Command will help European Command with the far-eastern part of Russia and will add Antarctica to its area of responsibility.

Myers said the missions and areas of responsibility of **U.S. Central Command, U.S. Southern Command, and Space, Transportation, Strategic, and Special Operations commands** will not change right now. "We are, however, looking to the possible merger of Space Command and Strategic Command, and a study of that is under way," he said.

Other changes to the Unified Command Plan:

U.S. Joint Forces Command will be freed of its homeland-defense mission to focus on its role as a "force generator," with the immediate task of transforming the U.S. military. The current commander's dual-task as NATO's supreme allied commander, Atlantic, will be split off, and U.S. officials will consult with NATO allies to devise a plan for restructuring the NATO command. □



Bradley crews of the 1st Infantry Division prepare to move their vehicles into firing positions during predeployment training at Grafenwöhr.

C LIMBING the slope to a group of small plywood houses in the replicated village of Vitina, Kosovo, soldiers of the 1st Battalion of the 1st Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade dodged "fire" that originated from a bunker surrounded by pop-up targets.

In this mock patrol at the Grafenwöhr Training Area in Germany, the infantrymen responded instinctively with precise machine gun and rifle fire.

The live-fire assault was only a small portion of the train-up exercise the Schweinfurt, Germany-based soldiers of the division's 18th and 26th Inf. regiments underwent to prepare for their current peacekeeping duties in Kosovo.

Their May arrival in the Balkans marked the division's return to Task Force Falcon for the first time since division units left the beleaguered country in December 2000. Those units had been the first to enter Kosovo

Former Soldiers magazine staffer MSG Larry Lane is public affairs NCOIC for the 1st Infantry Division.

Return to Kos

Story and Photos by
MSG Larry Lane

after the air war there ended in June 1999.

Presence Patrols

"We're in Kosovo to enforce the peace and keep everything quiet," said 1st Bn., 18th Inf., CSM John Calpena. But, while everything is relatively quiet, "everyone's on edge wondering if something's going to happen as an offshoot of terrorism elsewhere in the world."

The 1st Inf. Div. soldiers are conducting primarily reconnaissance missions from various checkpoints and patrolling the streets to reaffirm their presence.

The greatest challenge, Calpena said in May, is dealing with increased

The units' May arrival marked the 1st Infantry Division's return to Task Force Falcon.

criminal activity that historically occurs in the spring, when new coalition-force units transition into the region and criminals among the Kosovar population think they have a better chance of doing such things as smuggling, without being detected.

"They've been watching the military rotations for a couple of years," Calpena said, "so they know when troops will be replaced."

Drawing on Experience

Veterans such as weapons squad leader SSG Phillip Calkins draw from the experience of previous deployments to emphasize soldiers' need to be vigilant.

"In Operation Desert Storm, we knew we were going up against armor and trenches," Calkins said. "In Kosovo, we have to deal with lots of people in lots of villages. We can't really tell if people are going to be hostile toward us, and we really have to be alert at all times."

The predeployment live-fire exercises the units underwent were thus essential to the soldiers' readiness, Calkins said. "Because, despite the present peace, soldiers could be fired upon while patrolling the streets."

SGT Daniel Williams was a private during his first Kosovo rotation in 1999. This time the squad leader is responsible for guiding other soldiers.

The movement-to-contact drills he practiced before his unit deployed helped him hone skills in land navigation, radio communications and engaging an enemy, Williams said. The training also helped illustrate what



Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, assault a bunker during live-fire movement-to-contact training.

than it was three years ago, and the development of efficient facilities makes the current operation much easier, he said.

Nonetheless, COL Peter Palmer, 2nd Bde. commander and the deputy commander for maneuver in Kosovo, said his engineers and tankers are challenged in the infantry role.

Engineers to Infantry

The 54th Engineer Bn., a mechanized battalion of the 130th Engineer Bde., reorganized to become the "fifth company" of the 1st Bn., 18th Inf.

Before deploying, the soldiers honed basic infantry rifle-squad drills and other skills they're now using as a temporary division asset.

"It's a unique experience to be an engineer and be reorganized as infantry, our secondary role," said platoon sergeant SFC Brad Schneider, who relied on his experiences in Desert Storm to help him prepare for Kosovo.

The engineers, who set up traffic-control points, are inspecting vehicles, confiscating weapons caches, thwarting smuggling attempts and guarding a Serbian church, Schneider said.

PFC Larry Doll, a Bradley driver, is perfecting his driving skills, he said. In the process, he's become part of what he calls a "tight team."

"I never thought I'd be going to Germany. And I never thought about Kosovo before I joined the Army," Doll added.

SPC Jeremy Krebs, who trained as a gunner for the first time with the 1st

Bn., 26th Inf., said the most important element of training and preparing for deployment is to work as a team.

The skills Bradley crews developed on the firing range at Grafenwöhr give them the confidence they need to have in their weapon systems, he said. Additionally, the train-up afforded crews an opportunity to get to know each other, each other's style and how the group works as a whole. □

A 1st Bn. soldier motions to his team members as they approach an "enemy bunker complex" during the Grafenwöhr training.



ovo

his soldiers would have to do individually and how he, as a leader, would operate under stressful situations.

Task Force Falcon commander BG Douglas E. Lute described the 1st Inf. Div.'s first deployment to Kosovo as a "very confused, chaotic and fluid situation." Kosovo is more peaceful

An interceptor missile roars aloft from Meck Island — part of the Kwajalein-based Reagan Test Site — during a mid-March test undertaken as part of the Ground-based Midcourse Defense program.



KWAJALEIN:

More Than Rocket Science

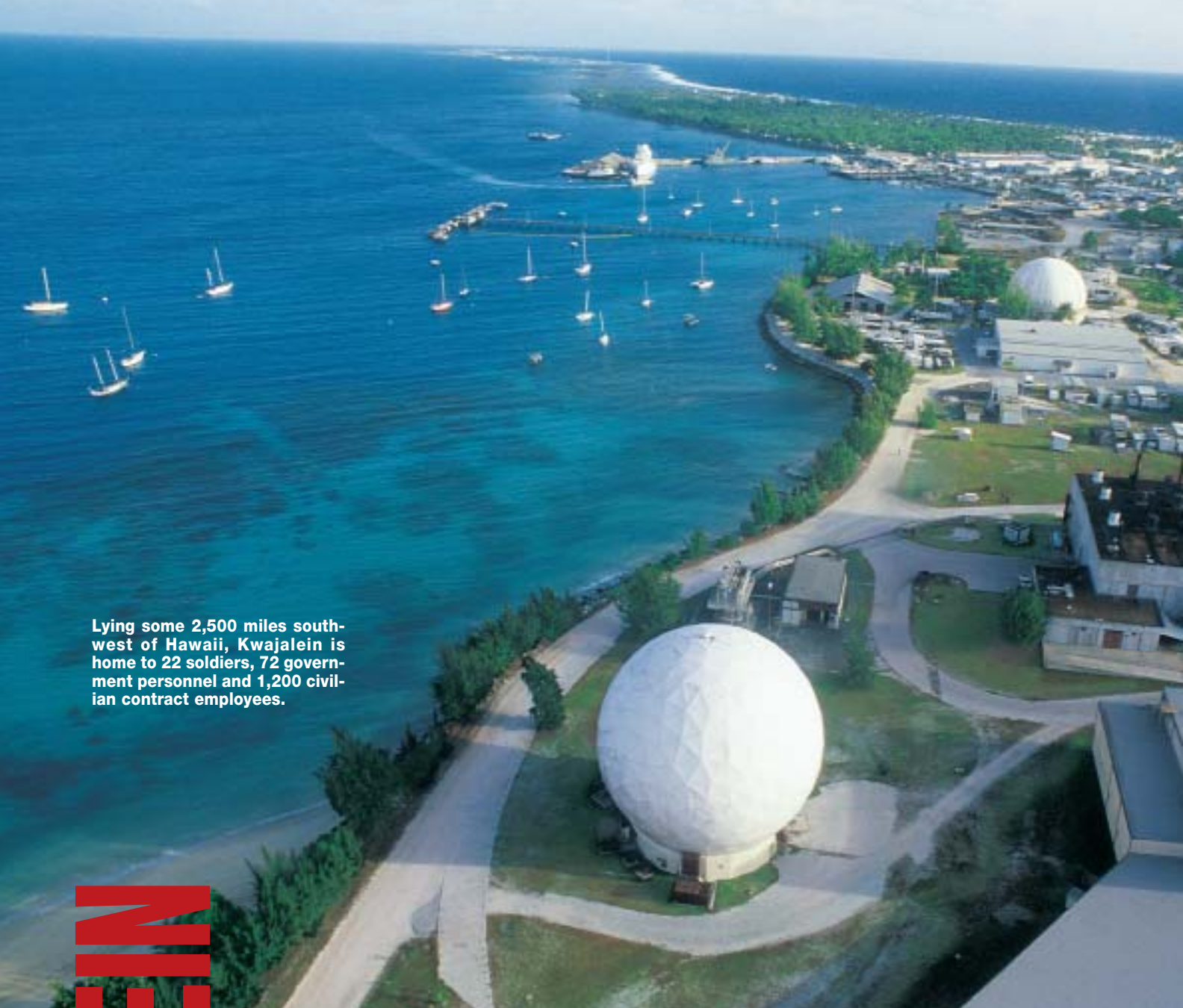


Story by Steve Harding

THIRTY-one minutes after blasting into space aboard a rocket launched from California, the simulated warhead died a spectacular death high above the Pacific Ocean. Hit by an interceptor missile fired from a remote coral atoll, the sophisticated target was instantly reduced to small bits of useless space debris.

The successful mid-March destruction of the target vehicle marked a milestone in the United States' Ground-based Midcourse Defense program. It was also another in a string of successes for the soldiers and civilian employees of the nation's premier missile test range — the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site, or RTS, on Kwajalein Atoll.

Lying some 2,500 miles southwest of Hawaii in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the necklace-shaped string of coral outcroppings is home to both the U.S. government-owned, contractor-operated RTS and U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, or USAKA, part of the Army Space and Missile Defense Command in Huntsville, Ala. Both are



Lying some 2,500 miles southwest of Hawaii, Kwajalein is home to 22 soldiers, 72 government personnel and 1,200 civilian contract employees.

KWAJALEIN

headquartered on Kwajalein Island, at the southern end of the atoll, and together they employ 22 soldiers, 72 government personnel, 1,200 civilian contract employees and about 1,400 Marshallese workers.

The missions undertaken by the members of this diverse community are of immense strategic importance, said USAKA commander COL Curtis L. Wrenn Jr.

“There is absolutely no doubt that Kwajalein is vital to the defense of the United States, and to the defense of the nation’s forward-deployed troops,” Wrenn said. “Our location and unique capabilities allow us to do missile

testing here that is done nowhere else, and we provide a range of important services to the nation.”

Open Spaces, Premier Sensors

The more than 100 small islands that make up Kwajalein Atoll are dispersed over some 1,100 square miles of ocean and encompass the world’s largest lagoon. Both attributes are important, said Steve Bell, an RTS scientist and spokesman.

“The size of the atoll allows us to spread our sensors around the various islands, which means that we can look

More Than Rocket Science



Steve Harding

Lying some 2,500 miles southwest of Hawaii in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the necklace-shaped string of coral outcroppings is home to both the U.S. government-owned, contractor-operated RTS and U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, or USAKA.



Steve Harding

Soldiers and civilians man the Mission Control Center on Kwajalein. From here, RTS personnel can monitor a wealth of information from a variety of sensors.

at each test from a number of angles and obtain a wider range of information,” Bell said. “It also means that bad weather rarely affects the entire area at the same time.”

The lagoon’s size also makes it an ideal “target” for incoming re-entry vehicles, he said.

“We can actually recover payloads that are targeted for the lagoon, where the maximum water depth is only about 200 feet. That would be done if the customer needs to recover the item for security reasons, or if they need to recover it for study,” Bell said.

On the other hand, if the customer doesn’t need to recover the item, or

wants it to be unrecoverable for security reasons, it can simply be targeted for areas outside the atoll, he said. The water depth there reaches 7,000 feet or more.

The atoll’s remoteness is also a plus, said LTC Steve Morris, USAKA’s director of plans, training and security.

“We’re outside the normal sea and air lanes, and this is a very sparsely populated area, so we don’t have the kind of safety issues that a Stateside site has,” Morris said. “We also don’t have the ‘frequency conflicts’ other ranges have to deal with, in that we don’t compete with radio or TV

stations, air-traffic control broadcasts or even garage-door openers. So we can provide a very ‘clean’ electronic environment for our customers.”

Not only is RTS ideally located for its mission, it is very well equipped in terms of instrumentation.

“We’re perhaps best known for our world-class suite of radars,” Bell said, “four on Roi Namur Island and two here on Kwajalein. In virtually every case our radars are the best in their class.

“And when you combine the radars with our optical sensors, telemetry receiving stations, impact-scoring assets, safety instrumentation and



The headquarters of U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll is housed in the same building that is home to the airfield control tower and other administrative offices.

state-of-the-art Mission Control Center, we're easily the best-equipped facility of our type in the world," Bell said.

■ A Range of Missions

With USAKA providing administrative oversight and government management guidance, RTS undertakes a variety of space-related missions.

"Perhaps the best known of those is our support for the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense, or GMD, program," Morris said. "But we're heavily involved in a range of developmental and operational missile-systems testing."

The latter includes such things as support for the testing of intercontinental ballistic missiles, he said, which involves tracking the incoming inert re-entry vehicles of ICBMs fired from the United States.

"The arrival of the re-entry vehicles is particularly spectacular," Morris said. "It usually happens at night, and we can see the vehicles dropping out of the sky. It's a tremendous show, and we track them all the way in. They usually land in the lagoon,

though they can also be targeted to land on one of the uninhabited islands."

Kwajalein is also heavily involved in what are known as space-operations missions, Bell added. Indeed, the atoll's highly sophisticated radars and the technicians who operate them spend the majority of their time involved in space-operations taskings.

"Among the important missions we support is the cataloging of all man-made objects orbiting Earth," Bell said. "Our specialty is deep-space observation, meaning anything beyond about 2,000 kilometers from Earth."

"There are only three radars that do deep-space tracking as part of this mission, and two of them are here at RTS," he said. "So, we do the majority of the deep-space work. In a typical year we'll track and report on some 40,000 objects."

A related mission, Bell said, is called "new foreign launch support."

"Our location gives us the unique ability to track vehicles launched from Asia and South Asia," he said. "We're required to have our radar up and searching for the new launch within 15 minutes of a notification, and that happens about 25 times a year. It's

very challenging to look for an object that's never been tracked before, and we're very proud of the fact that for three years in a row we've achieved 100 percent success in acquiring the new foreign launches."

Another space-observation mission is called Space Object Identification. This process takes radar information from a very high-resolution sensor and refines it to obtain what amounts to a picture of the object. This might be used, for example, to determine if an inoperable satellite is damaged or simply doesn't have its solar panels deployed.

"We also participate in space shuttle missions," Bell said. "One of our radars on Roi Namur will track the space shuttle and pass that data on to NASA's mission control. We also provide telemetry and tracking services for various commercial space programs."

"As you can see," Morris added, "we're involved in a variety of very important and very challenging missions. We feel we're the best in the world at what we do, and the extremely positive feedback we get from our customers supports that belief."

■ In the Future

Not content to rest on their laurels, the people of USAKA and RTS are

"There are only three radars that do deep-space tracking as part of this mission, and two of them are here at RTS. So, we do the majority of the deep-space work."



More Than Rocket Science

always looking for ways to improve Kwajalein's capabilities, Morris said.

"RTS is a business and, like any other business, we have to continually improve our capabilities and lower our costs if we want our customers to keep coming back," he said. "That means we are continually looking for better and less-expensive ways to do what we do."

A key aspect of that improvement effort is the ongoing modernization of RTS's sensors.

"We're about 75 percent done with a complete modernization of all the radars on Roi Numur," Morris said. "By using commercial, off-the-shelf technology we can improve the radars' performance and increase their capabilities. We'll also eventually be able to operate the systems remotely."

The modernization will significantly reduce the number of people required to operate and maintain the radars, Morris said, thus reducing both personnel costs and the costs associated with transporting operators and maintainers to and from those islands each day [*see accompanying story*].

"This is just one aspect of our continuing effort to ensure that Kwajalein remains the nation's premier missile-testing site," Morris said. "Everyone who works here — military and civilian, American and Marshallese — is dedicated to that goal." □

A contract range worker removes protective tape from the interceptor missile before launch. RTS has had a string of successes in the GMD program.

Michael L. Gail





Beautiful sunsets are a benefit of life on Kwaj, whose remoteness ensures that residents enjoy a small-town quality of life now rare in many U.S. communities.

Island Life

Story by Steve Harding



More Than Rocket Science

ASK Kwajalein's residents for the one word that best sums up daily life on the remote atoll, and the most common response is "unique."

"Sure, we know that's an overused word," said LTC Steve Morris, director of plans, training and security for U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll. "But this is one of the places where it really applies."

"Look at it from our perspective," Morris said. "This is a tremendously diverse community. We have everything from rocket scientists to janitors to teachers to medical personnel to



The absence of private vehicles on Kwaj means everyone rides a bike, which lends the island's small "downtown" area a relaxed atmosphere — except during the far-busier afternoon "rush hour."

shipboard cargo containers on each trip."

A Real Community

The same factor that makes Kwajalein such a wonderful location for a missile test site — its remoteness — also ensures that the people who call the island home have a very real sense of community, said Nathaniel Jackson Jr., the civilian captain of one of Kwajalein's Army vessels and a longtime resident of the island.

"In many ways, this is like a small town from a long time ago," Jackson said. "Everyone rides a bike, because there aren't any private cars, and the island is so small that you practically know everyone. As a result, we tend to bond together in ways that people in large stateside communities don't."

"Our sense of community is in many ways a throwback to an earlier, simpler time," Morris agreed, "and it helps make Kwajalein a great place to raise kids. Everyone knows and looks out for each other, our schools are outstanding and we have an extremely

retail workers. They're military and civilian, American and Marshallese, adults and children."

Moreover, Morris said, though Kwajalein is a military installation it has just 22 soldiers assigned, and it doesn't have the usual facilities associated with an Army post.

"We run our own hospital without assistance from an Army medical activity, and we run our own schools without help from the Department of Defense school system," he said. "Through the contractor, the USAKA commander also runs his own airline,

his own port, his own retail outlets, his own Customs facility and his own emergency services."

And few other installations are faced with the logistical challenges with which Kwajalein must contend, Morris said.

"If we can't grow it or pull it out of the ocean, we have to import it," he said. "Three times a week an Air Mobility Command transport brings in fresh fruit, vegetables, milk, mail and critical parts. The rest of the things we need come in once a month aboard a barge that carries an average of 130



K.W. Hillis

A Kwajalein-based physician examines a Marshallese child on nearby Ebeye Island during a medical goodwill visit.

low crime rate. And, of course, it doesn't hurt that we have some of the best weather and best recreation opportunities anyone could ask for."

Off Duty

Though barely 2 1/2 miles long and just a 1/2 mile wide, Kwajalein Island offers a surprising range of recreational choices.

The golf course and small-boat marina are the residents' preferred recreational venues, Morris said, followed by the sheltered beaches that line the small island's northern, lagoon-facing side.

For the more adventurous, Kwajalein offers some of the best diving in the world, said Peter Rejcek, associate editor of the island's community newspaper.

"The diving here is just spectacular

The Soldier Perspective

Story by Steve Harding

LIKE virtually all of the 22 soldiers assigned to U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, SFC Donell Jones has mixed feelings about duty on a small island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

"I've been on Kwaj for almost four years," said Jones, USAKA's provost sergeant, "and for soldiers there are both advantages and disadvantages to being assigned here."

The biggest plus, Jones said, is that Kwaj gives soldiers something they rarely get elsewhere.

"Here on Kwajalein you get lots of time with your family," he said. "As an MP I used to deploy all the time, but that's not a problem here. Every day I

get to help my kids with their homework, and watch them play baseball and soccer. This is a very family oriented assignment, and you have to just enjoy it to the fullest, because you know that wherever you go next, you'll probably be deployed."

Along with the quality family time, Jones said, comes the chance to enjoy Kwaj's many recreational

SGT Chris Hansen



MAJ Matt Reed, one of the 22 soldiers who make up U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, pre-flights a UH-1 before a flight to nearby Meck Island.

opportunities — everything from sailing and diving to group sports and time on the island's beaches.

"This is a beautiful place," Jones said, "and there's a lot to do. And you really get to know the other people on Kwaj, so there's a real sense of community. That's a good thing, especially way out here in the Pacific."

The fact that Kwajalein is so far from

for both beginners and the more experienced,” Rejcek said. “It’s really no wonder why our dive club is the world’s largest in terms of active members.”

Kwajalein’s location also makes it an ideal jumping-off point for travel throughout the Pacific and Asia, an opportunity that many island residents take advantage of, Morris said.

“We work hard, but we play hard, too,” Morris said. “When we get the chance to relax — whether on the island or off — we take it. I tell my

friends back in the States that after work here we do what they do on their weekends. On the weekends here, we do what other people do on vacation.”

Quality of Life

The recreation opportunities on Kwajalein are just another part of a lifestyle that USAKA makes every effort to maintain at the highest possible level, Morris said, both

because Kwaj’s residents deserve the best and because personnel turnover can be an expensive and time-consuming proposition.

“There isn’t a huge labor pool out here in the middle of the ocean,” he said. “So it’s very difficult for us to recruit scientific and professional workers, and it’s terribly expensive to replace someone. It takes a lot of time and money to bring someone here, and we recognize that quality of life plays a large role in keeping people here.”

(continued on next page)



SFC Jacqueline Chatman (left), NCOIC of the Kwajalein post office, and SGT Elizabeth Flores sort some of the 1 million packages that arrive on the island each year. Soldiers play a key role in Kwaj’s postal operations, which directly affect all residents.

anywhere else is also a big part of the downside to duty on the atoll.

“As soldiers, living here on Kwaj means we’re a long way from the rest of the Army,” Jones said. “When you’ve been here for a while, you can start to feel like you’re a little out of touch.”

That’s a sentiment shared by most USAKA soldiers, said the organization’s commander, LTC Curtis L. Wrenn Jr.

“This is truly a wonderful place, but the fact is that we’re 7,000 miles

from our headquarters,” Wrenn said. “That can impede the normal operations of a military unit.

“For example,” he said, “even though we have e-mail, fax and telephone, we still lose something in terms of the fidelity of communication being this far out. And, of course, our planning lead times for things like personnel rotations are considerably more involved than they are for most other installations.”

In one sense, though, being so far from the flagpole can be good for

soldiers, said USAKA 1SG Leroy P. Balag.

“The Army here on Kwaj is ‘one deep,’ meaning that each soldier has a specific job to do and there’s not a second or third soldier in line as back-up,” Balag said.

“So each of our soldiers has to be self-driven and very motivated,” he said. “They have to be the subject-matter expert in their field, and they have to be able to anticipate possible problems and apply solutions very quickly.

“Duty here also gives soldiers an appreciation for the important work done by civilians,” Balag said.

“Because this is a government-owned, contractor-operated installation, much of the work is done by civilians. And because the civilians are so good at what they do, it can really be an eye-opener for soldiers who’ve never seen that side of the Army.

“The bottom line about serving on Kwajalein is that this is a very close community that includes both soldiers and civilians, and we all take care of each other because we understand that we have to rely on ourselves,” Balag said. “That sense of community is something you don’t often find in big cities back in the States, or even on large military installations. This is a very special place.” □



Though remote in every sense of the word, Kwajalein evokes such a positive sense of community that many residents choose to stay for years past their initial contract obligations.

“And we must be doing something right,” he said, “because 68 percent of our workforce has been here for more than seven years.”

It probably helps, of course, that U.S. contractor employees don’t have to pay U.S. federal income taxes, just their part of the Social Security tax and a 5-percent Marshallese income tax, Morris said. In addition, many employees get free housing, meals, utilities and maintenance on their quarters. And since there are no cars, there are no car payments or car-insurance premiums.

“In the end, though, what keeps people here and what makes this such a great place to live is the shared sense of purpose,” said Wrenn. “We all know why we’re here, and we know that what we do is important to the nation. It’s that simple.” □

Island Life

Ach, the Pipes!

WHEN you think of ways to spend off-duty time on a Pacific island, playing the bagpipes probably doesn’t immediately come to mind. But for Greg Horner and the other members of the Kwajalein Pipes & Drums, it’s the ideal way to both relax and provide a much-appreciated service to the community.

“The Pipes & Drums have been around for quite a while,” said Horner, a quality analyst with the Reagan Test Site’s Information Technology Division and the band’s pipe major. “We enjoy each other’s company, and we also play a big role in this community because we perform at all sorts of events. We’re always made very welcome and we’re honored, especially when we play at the Veterans Day observance, which has a particularly powerful significance here.”

The members of the band are drawn from every organization represented on the island — both military and civilian.

“We’ve often remarked on the fact that we wouldn’t have this combination of people in a group like this if it weren’t for the band,” Horner said. “This is a real tight group, and that’s not always the way in other musical endeavors.”

Like most of those who come into the group, Horner had no prior musical experience.

“Teaching the pipes is just something that gets passed on,” he said, “so each new member of the band learns the pipes from scratch. But most of us are so highly motivated that we quickly overcome that initial lack of musical experience.”

The band practices in the VFW Hall near the island’s western end, just to the north of the runway. Relatively isolated, it is an ideal place to practice, Horner said, given that not everyone appreciates the “unique” sound of the pipes, especially when they’re being played by a beginner.

“True, our practice sessions may not be real popular with some people,” he said, smiling. “But when we play at a community event, the shrilling of the pipes and the rhythms of the drums get them every time.” — *Steve Harding*



Members of the Pipes & Drums — a group with both social and community roles on Kwaj — rehearse a tune during an evening practice session.

By Air and by Sea



The three contractor-operated Raytheon-Beech 1900s of Kwaj's "airline" carry some 100 workers to and from Roi Namur each day.



Each day LCM-8 landing craft equipped with sun awnings shuttle Marshallese workers from nearby Ebeye Island to and from their jobs on Kwajalein.

Story and Photos by Steve Harding

WHILE the size of Kwajalein Atoll's lagoon and the distance between its islands make for better missile testing, they also pose some significant logistical challenges.

"We've got operations and facilities spread across this vast atoll," said LTC Steve Morris, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll's director of plans, training and security. "That means we have a

substantial intra-atoll transportation requirement, in terms of moving people, equipment and supplies.

"For example, we have about 100 accompanied employees who live on Kwajalein but work on Roi Namur, 48 miles to the north," Morris said. "And no one lives fulltime at our launch facility on Meck, about 25 miles to the northeast, so everybody who works there has to commute each day. And

our Marshallese workers have to come from Ebeye, which is less than half a mile from Kwaj but is separated from it by open water.

"Besides having to move quite a few people each day," Morris said, "we also have to transport a significant amount of equipment and supplies. That entails hauling everything from fuel and fresh water to missile components and heavy construction machinery."

Over the years, the need to move people and cargo among the islands that make up the Reagan Test Site — and do it efficiently and cost-effectively — has led to the development of what Morris called "Kwaj's own airline and shipping company."

Kwaj Air

Newcomers might easily mistake Kwajalein Island's Bucholz Army Air Field for a civilian airport, for every



carry on each flight.

"That's where our Marine Department comes in," said CW3 Ron Kurth, USAKA's marine engineer evaluator.

"Our 17 Army-owned, contractor-operated watercraft do the jobs that the aircraft can't do, like carrying heavy or bulky cargo, and those that it wouldn't be cost-effective for the planes to do, like carrying large groups of people over fairly short distances," Kurth

said. "They also provide range-safety services and carry bulk cargoes of fuel and fresh water."

Perhaps the busiest watercraft in the Kwaj fleet, Kurth said, are the five LCM-8 landing craft that shuttle Marshallese workers back and forth between Ebeye and Kwajalein every day.

USAKA's other passenger vessels are the passenger ferry catamarans *Jera* and *Jelang K*. The only watercraft of their type in Army service, these high-speed ships can each carry up to 200 people on daily runs between

Nathaniel Jackson Jr., captain of the *Great Bridge*, brings the vessel in toward a Kwajalein beach to offload heavy equipment carried from Meck Island. The 17 Army vessels that make up Kwaj's "navy" are all contractor-operated.

day the field echoes to the seemingly continuous arrival and departure of fixed-wing passenger aircraft and helicopters.

Kwaj's fixed-wing fleet consists of three contractor-owned and operated Raytheon-Beech 1900 twin-turboprops, which run daily 19-person shuttle flights to Roi Namur. Each day the 1900s carry workers to and from that island's Dyess AAF, RTS's only other runway, with a regularity any civilian airline would envy.

"Though the Roi Namur shuttle is the 1900s' primary mission, they'll also occasionally make longer flights to places like Kiribati," said MAJ Matthew Reed, USAKA's director of logistics and government flight representative. "These aircraft are much more efficient than those they replaced, and a lot more comfortable to fly in, too."

To transport smaller groups of workers to those islands that aren't large enough to have runways, USAKA relies on four Army-owned UH-1 helicopters flown by contract pilots.

"The Hueys will go to places like Meck, Illeginni and Ennylabegan," Reed said, "carrying up to 11 passengers on each flight. They'll also take smaller pieces of cargo, if there's room."

Besides their personnel-transport role, the venerable Hueys are also called on to undertake medical-evacuation missions.

"We'll medevac members of the Kwaj workforce from Roi Namur or Meck islands at any time, 24 hours a day," Reed said, "and two of the helicopters are fitted with spotlights for use during nighttime evac missions."

"We also do medevac missions for Marshallese on some of the outer islands," added CW4 Brent Hobbach, USAKA's aviation safety officer. "The hospital on Kwaj is the only medical facility for hundreds of miles, and we go out and pick them up in emergencies."

USAKA's "Navy"

As capable as USAKA's aircraft are, they are limited in the amount of cargo and number of people they can

Passengers on a UH-1 shuttle flight settle in for the trip to Meck Island. The four Army-owned, contractor-operated Hueys can also carry small cargo loads, as well as undertaking medical-evacuation missions.



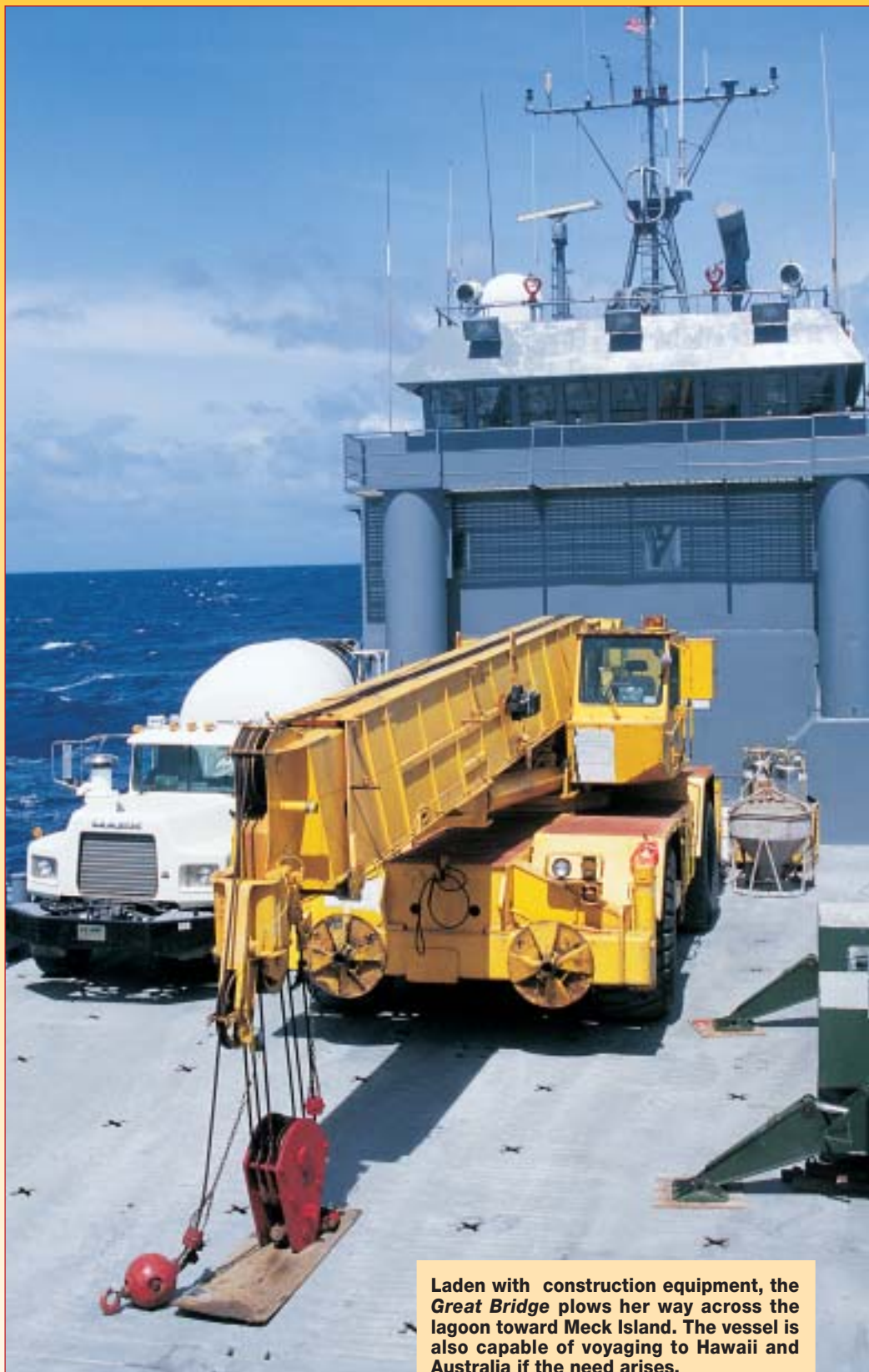
Kwajalein and the outlying islands of Meck and Roi Namur.

The largest vessels USAKA operates are the antenna-laden range-safety ship *Worthy*, the ocean-going tugs *Condor* and *Mystic*, the LCU 1600-class landing craft, utility, *Manassas* and the larger LCU 2000-class *Great Bridge*. The latter is USAKA's heavy-lift vessel of choice, said its civilian captain, Nathaniel Jackson Jr.

"If it's big and heavy, we move it," Jackson said. "We'll transport things like vehicles, forklifts, cranes and other outsize cargo between the various islands. And when our size gets in the way, such as when the water at a particular place is too shallow for us to get in, the *Manassas* does the job."

That commitment to getting the job done is typical of the Marine Department, Jackson said.

"We're not here just to move people and cargo," he said. "When we take someone somewhere, we assist them in whatever way we can. We're always happy to help." □



Laden with construction equipment, the *Great Bridge* plows her way across the lagoon toward Meck Island. The vessel is also capable of voyaging to Hawaii and Australia if the need arises.

BRINGING HEALTH TO

Story and Photos by
Tech. Sgt. G. A. Volb

THE expressions on the faces of men, women and children from the village of Plan de Leones, Honduras, said it all: The villagers had endured a five-hour wait in the sweltering heat, yet their wide smiles told members of Joint Task Force-Bravo's visiting medical readiness team that they were most welcome.

Stationed at Soto Cano Air Base in Honduras, JTF-Bravo is composed of about 400 U.S. service members — predominantly from the Army — who support multinational exercises, humanitarian-aid missions and drug interdiction operations. They perform such missions as building schools and roads, digging wells and providing medical care.

This day, it was JTF-Bravo's medical element that took the lead by making one of its regular trips into the Honduran countryside. They provided medical

"For many, this is the first time they've seen a doctor."

help to those who typically go without it.

Upon arriving at the small village wedged among the Comayagua Mountains, 90 minutes north of the base, the team members found that word of their scheduled visit had reached far and wide. Some of the roughly 400 people waiting in the area had walked hours in the heat to receive medical attention.

Several lines wound around the schoolyard fence, toward the town



A Honduran army officer gives local people an initial briefing during JTF-B's medical readiness mission to the town of Plan de Leones.

church and down a nearby hill. Among the throng of people were the elderly and young mothers with infants. All came seeking help for ailments that had gone unattended for too long.

"For many, this is the first time they've seen a doctor," said CPT Bret Buehner, a nurse and the officer in charge of the mission.

Word of mouth is what keeps JTF-Bravo's medical readiness missions alive, he said. "We tell local leaders when we plan to be in their village, and they spread the word."

The team — three physicians, three nurses, a dental surgeon and various support personnel —



Deiby Argentina Bonilla, 13, of Plan de Leones receives a vaccination from a local nurse during JTF-B's visit.

Air Force Tech. Sgt. G. A. Volb is with Joint Task Force-Bravo's Public Affairs Office.

HUMANITARIAN AID

HONDURAS

"We tell local leaders when we plan to be in their village, and they spread the word."



Assisted by SPC Ricky Baxter (center), physician's assistant CPT Lyn Riat examines one of Plan de Leones' younger citizens.

provides everything from health-care briefings to dental and gynecological exams. Typically, it visits several villages in any given week, traveling to remote sites to reach the country's majority — people whose annual income is well below the national poverty level.

Young mothers don't realize the health risk to their infants ...

"The major issue we deal with here is a lack of education about health care," said Dr. Carlos Duron, a local physician who worked with the JTF-Bravo team. "It's important that we

teach the people about the importance of sanitation, proper waste disposal and nutrition if we're going to break the cycle of malnutrition and disease in this country."

If the medical team members can teach the people of rural Honduras something about preventative medicine and the criticality of proper nutrition from the time a baby is born, "we might be able to break that cycle," Duron said.

Young mothers, for example, don't realize the health risk to their infants from giving them whole milk or formula in lieu of breast-feeding them too soon after birth. Because their digestive systems aren't yet developed enough to handle processed foods, the babies develop diarrhea, gastrointestinal problems, dehydration and malnutrition, because they're not getting the



Townpeople awaiting their turn in the clinic peer through the window as others line up outside.

vitamins and minerals they need for healthy development.

For some mothers, the benefits of attending an educational program like those offered by the JTF-Bravo team are immediate, Buehner said.

"This was good for my family," said Median Ventura, the 20-year-old mother of a 7-month-old son. "This is the first time in months I've been able to get him to a doctor," said Ventura, whose son suffered from the nutritional problems Duron described. After attending a short seminar on nutrition, she was confident she could better care for him.

"... all of us on the team love what we're doing. And we feel like we're doing some good."

"We have to teach them to take care of themselves," said CPT Lyn Riat, a physician's assistant. "Providing temporary remedies on visits like this one will help for a little while, but educating the people here is a much more viable long-term solution to their medical problems."

Sometimes it's tough getting up in the morning knowing you'll be traveling over haphazard roads in austere parts of Central America, said Buehner. "But all of us on the team love what we're doing. And we feel like we're doing some good." □

Postmarks *Compiled by SSG Alberto Betancourt*

From Army Posts Around the World

Fort Knox, Ky.

Canadians Train at Fort Knox

SPRING break for some Canadian army reservists is traditionally a time for sun, fun, and an intensive week of training south of the border.

This year more than 1,300 Canadian soldiers traveled to Fort Knox, Ky., to participate in Exercise Bold Venture.

Brig. Gen. Greg Young, the Canadian army's deputy commander in Ontario, said the exercise covered everything from training on the obstacle and bayonet courses to conducting an all-out "assault" on a mock village at the Urban Combat Course.

"Training soldiers to fight and survive in any environment is a key objective of any major exercise," Young said. "Bold

Venture was designed to provide realistic and challenging training that our soldiers won't soon forget."

For many, the highlight of the exercise was the live-fire infiltration range, where soldiers crawled through 100 meters of sand, over logs under concertina wire. After sunset, the same drill involved overhead live machine-gun fire, complete with flares and explosives that simulated a very realistic battlefield scenario.

"It was very real and very stressful. You can't stand up with live bullets flying six feet above your head," said Pvt. Maurice Nolet.

Young said the state-of-the-art training facilities at Fort Knox are not available in Canada.

"Training in this realistic environment increases the soldiers' morale," Young said. "Although they were physically and mentally exhausted, their sense of accomplishment was very obvious."

He said training at the mock village was especially beneficial for the soldiers.

"The town site brought the training to life", said military police platoon leader 2nd Lt. Brian Pitkin. "The sound of helicopters and mortars contributed to the sense that we were working in an active zone."

Pitkin said training at Fort Knox was so successful, the Canadians are planning to return next year.

Going south to train at U.S. facilities again would suit many reservists just fine, he said.

"I'd like to do this more often, perhaps twice a year," said Cpl. Mike Moorhouse of the Lorne Scots Regiment. "The Americans have great simulators and training aids." — *Capt. Mark Giles, Canadian army reserve Public Affairs Office*

Kuwait

AGF Band Plays Kuwait

A COMPONENT of the Army Ground Forces Band recently made its overseas concert debut at the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait.

The show band "Classix" from the U.S. Army Forces Command at Fort McPherson,

PFC Gustavo Bahena



SFC Polly DesRoches, lead vocalist and noncommissioned officer in charge of the band "Classix," sings "Celebration" during the concert at the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait.

Ga., celebrated the embassy's "National Day" by opening the performance with the national anthem.

"National Day is held at the embassy annually to allow embassy employees to welcome and meet Kuwaiti and foreign-government officials, and members of the business and academic communities," said Molly Phee, an embassy spokeswoman.

After remarks from U.S. Ambassador Richard Jones and Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah, the band entertained the crowd with renditions of such well-known tunes as "I Feel Good" and "Celebration," in addition to some original compositions.

"Many of the guests — and the ambassador — said the band was great," said Phee.

Although the band mem-

Sgt. William Wilczewski



A Canadian soldier scans the area while providing security during urban combat training at Fort Knox's Zussman Training Site.

bers were initially invited to play for the event at the embassy, they also entertained U.S. troops at Camp Doha and at a training area in Kuwait.

"We focused on providing troop support," said SFC Polly DesRoches, NCOIC of the band, who also plays flute and sings. "We try to bring them peace through music."

Saxophonist and flute player 1SG Andrew Crudup said they played a variety of patriotic music to boost morale and bring the soldiers a little piece of home.

"I don't think we can do enough for them," said SFC Miguel Torres, trombone player for the band. "We want them to know that they're not forgotten." — *PFC Gustavo Bahena, Coalition Forces Land Component Command PAO*

Kandahar, Afghanistan

AAFES Serves Troops in Afghanistan

LIVING up to its "We go where you go" motto, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service brought a bit of home to Operation Enduring Freedom soldiers serving in Afghanistan.

"When Operation Enduring Freedom started, a message was sent to all AAFES managers, asking for volunteers," said Bill Hullender, manager of the AAFES Kandahar store. "We had more volunteers than we could use."

He said civilian AAFES employees who volunteer for this assignment go on 6-month temporary-duty orders and live in the field with the soldiers.

"We enjoy helping the soldiers. The troops have been waiting for us, and it's a big morale booster," Hullender said. "We bring a little bit of home to the troops in the field."



MAJ Joe Melicher

Members of last year's Army GBRAI team follow the tradition of dipping their bikes' front tires into the Mississippi River upon completion of the 505-mile ride.

Des Moines, Iowa

Soldiers Ride Across Iowa

FOR the second year in a row the Army will participate in the annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa.

Last year, 14 members of the Army's Des Moines Recruiting Battalion completed the seven-day, 505-mile bike ride across the state.

"We constantly heard comments about our jerseys, which displayed the 'Army of One' logo," said MAJ Joe Melicher, a participant on last year's team. "Fellow riders asked questions about what the Army was like and what opportunities we offered."

CPT Michael Minaudo, adjutant for the Des Moines battalion, said the soldiers are geared up to participate in this year's ride.

"This is a great opportunity to promote the Army," he said. "It's a great team builder and a great way to meet the community."

The 30th annual bike ride takes place this month. — *CPT Lee Zimmermann, Des Moines Recruiting Bn.*

For several months PFC Donald Brewster, from the 101st Airborne Division's 2nd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, had gone without sodas.

"It's great to get some treats. I just wish they also had chocolate," he said.

Other soldiers, including

PV2 Steven Stodsdill, also from 2nd Bn., waited in line for hours to purchase flashlights, magazines and other items.

Several weeks before opening the store, AAFES sent an advance party to survey the service members' needs and wishes. The team determined

where and what kind of facility they would provide, what materials they needed and what items they would sell. They also assembled a management team and placed advance orders, based on the number of troops they would need to serve.

"Supplies are always stocked at another store in the region that has storage capacity," Hullender said. "We also have merchandise shipped here so we can keep our troops supplied."

Since Enduring Freedom began, AAFES has opened stores in five countries.

"Helping soldiers is what AAFES is all about," Hullender said. — *PFC George Allen, 314th Press Camp Headquarters*



PFC George Allen

AAFES manager Bill Hullender sets up merchandise in preparation for the opening of Afghanistan's newest base exchange.

The Return of the Service

Story by SPC Rachael Tolliver

FOLLOWING U.S. troop deployments to Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, people across America again tied yellow ribbons around trees and prominently displayed U.S. flags.

But a little-known tradition that honors military personnel in times of war and conflict has yet to make any noticeable appearance — display of the service flag.

Sometimes called the “Son in Service” flag, it was first displayed during World War I and became a popular symbol of support in the homes of military service members and their families throughout the nation during World War II.

CPT Robert Queissner of the 5th Ohio Infantry is credited with starting the service flag tradition. He made a small flag to display in his home to honor his two sons who fought on the front lines in Europe in World War I.

The flag was white with a red border and included two blue stars in the middle, one representing each son.

The flag idea caught on and, thereafter, became the unofficial symbol of a child in service.

Keith Gillan of Watertown, N.Y., a sergeant in the Army Air Forces during World War II, said: “It meant a lot to the soldiers to know the flags were displayed in their homes. And neighbors appreciated knowing who had a family member serving the country, so they could lend support to the family.”

The service flag is authorized by the Department of Defense to be displayed by Americans to honor their family members who are serving in the U.S. armed forces during any period of conflict or war, whether the soldier is deployed or remains on U.S. soil.

World War II is really the last time the service flag was displayed throughout the United States.

Since World War II, however, the service flag has rarely been seen and few people in America know what the flag is, or what it represents. After the war, the service flag fell by the wayside, probably due to a lack of support from Americans for the wars that followed, said Kathy Vairo, co-owner of Battle Born Industries and **ServiceFlags.com**.

thought this would be a great way to support the military,” she said.

ServiceFlags.com was the first company to manufacture the Service flags, Vairo said, and in December 2001 only three companies in the United States manufactured the symbol of service.

During World War II the Department of War issued specifications for

Patriotism Buttons

THE Defense Department also authorizes the manufacture and wear of a gold star lapel button and a service lapel button. The GSLB is a gold star on a purple disk surrounded by a wreath of gold laurel leaves. It may be worn by the family members of a soldier killed in combat.

Those authorized to display the service flag are also authorized to wear the SLB. However, while the flag may show as many stars as family members serving, the button may show only one star. A gold star is not authorized as part of the SLB as it is on the service flag. — SPC Rachael Tolliver



While some families chose to display the service flag during the Vietnam War, Vairo said, most didn't, and few even knew of its existence. The very popular Operation Desert Storm, on the other hand, was a brief engagement. “So World War II is really the last time the service flag was displayed throughout the United States.”

After the Sept. 11 attacks on America and the start of troop deployments to Afghanistan, Vairo and her brother, David Smith, decided to manufacture service flags. “We

manufacturing the flag and button, as well as guidelines indicating when the flag could be displayed and who could display it.

Then, in the 1960s, DOD revised previous regulations and specifications. According to information on the Web site **www.gideonflags.com**, these guidelines are outlined in DOD Directive 348.20 and 1348.33-M, “Manual of Military Decorations and Awards.” The specifics can be found on pages 88 through 93 in the 1996 version.

The service flag may also be

SPC Rachael Tolliver is assigned to the 10th Mountain Division Public Affairs Office at Fort Drum, N.Y.

Flag

displayed by organizations to honor members of the organization who are serving in the armed forces.

The flag is designed to be displayed indoors, facing out of the home's or organization's front window, Vairo said. When the U.S. flag is also displayed, it should take the place of honor above the service flag and should be as large or larger.

A gold star should be placed over the service flag's blue star if a family member is killed during a war or conflict. The gold star takes a position of honor closest to the staff and is slightly smaller than the blue star, giving the gold star a blue border, Vairo said. In 1918 the name "Gold Star Mothers" was given to women who had lost children in the armed services.

Family members authorized to display the service flag include spouses, parents, step-parents, adoptive and foster parents, children, stepchildren, adopted children, siblings, and half brothers and half sisters of a member of the U.S. armed services.

Grandparents are not currently authorized to display the flag, Vairo said.

Local retailers and military post exchanges don't sell the service flag. But Sharon Campbell, manager of Military Clothing and Sales at Fort Drum, N.Y., said the service flag may be ordered online at www.annin.com. Representatives at Annin said they're manufacturing the flag with DOD authorization.

AAFES military insignia buyer Ray Howard said AAFES is researching the service flag and waiting for approval to sell it. AAFES officials will then decide whether or not to include it in their inventory, he said.

"I believe the incidents that have happened in the last six months have brought this item back into the lime-light," Howard said.

For Americans, World War II



Few people in America know what the flag is, or what it represents.

started with the attack on Pearl Harbor, he said. Nearly 60 years later, the United States came under attack again, and once again families gave up their children to a war effort.

Americans now have the opportunity to revive tradition and display the service flag, showing their family's contribution to the war on terrorism, Howard said. □

BE A PART OF YOUR MAGAZINE

SEND YOUR PHOTOS TO SOLDIERS

Soldiers wants you, your family and friends to be part of our hottest issue of the year. We're already planning our 2003 almanac and once again need your help.

A large part of each almanac is "This Is Our Army," a photo feature that tells the Army story at the local level.

If you have candid photos of the Army family at work or play, send them in NOW. **The only restriction is that your photos should be taken between Aug. 16, 2001, and Aug. 15, 2002, and be sent to us by Sept. 1.**

Soldiers requires color prints or slides. **We do not need fancy 8x10 prints** — regular 4x6 prints will do. We can accept digital images, but they must be very high resolution (minimum is 5x7 at 300 dpi), the kind taken with a professional digital camera. If your images can fit onto a floppy disk, they are too small. Please do not send prints made from digital images. Also, please **DO NOT** e-mail photo submissions.

To enter, complete a copy of the form below and attach it to each photo you send. Photos without complete caption information will not be considered. Photos and accompanying information cannot be returned.

If you have questions, contact our photo editor by phone at (703) 806-4504 or (DSN) 656-4504, or via e-mail to soldiers@belvoir.army.mil.

Mail your entries with prints or slides to: **Soldiers; ATTN: Photo Editor; 9325 Gunston Rd., Suite S-108; Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581.**

"Writing and Shooting for Soldiers Magazine" and the Soldiers Style Guide, are both available at www.soldiersmagazine.com.

10

TIPS FOR PHOTO SUCCESS

MORE than half the photos we receive each year never make it to the final selection process, mostly for avoidable reasons. Follow these simple tips to be sure your photos have the best chance of being selected.

1. Complete the accompanying entry form and carefully attach it to the back of each photo you send, or provide a way of linking it to each image.

2. Make sure your package is postmarked by the Sept. 1, 2002 deadline.

3. Send only photos taken between Aug. 16, 2001, and Aug. 15, 2002.

4. Check closely to be sure your photos don't show obvious uniform or safety violations.

5. Identify people in each photo by full name, rank and correct unit designation; and provide a means of contacting you if we have any questions about the information you've sent.

6. Don't send snapshots of people staring into the camera. Candid photos are usually better.

7. Send only quality images: No Polaroids; no out-of-focus, discolored or torn images; and no prints from digital images.

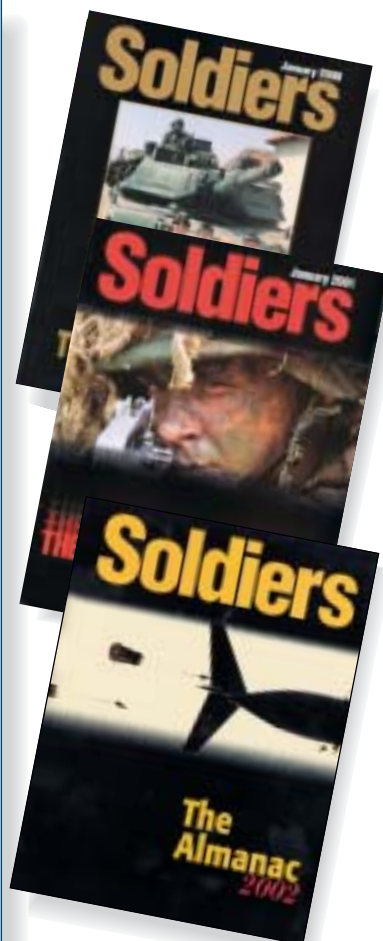
8. Don't write on the back of your prints, because this may damage the images. Also, avoid using staples and paper clips on photos.

9. Protect your images. Use cardboard to reinforce your package before you mail.

10. If you plan to send digital images, follow the guidelines in our Style Guide, posted on

Soldiers Online at

www.soldiersmagazine.com



Soldiers

"This Is Our Army" Entry Form

Photographer's full name (and rank if military)

e-mail address

Phone

Street address

City (APO)

State

Zip

Photocopy this entry form and attach a copy to each photo you submit.

Where and when was the photo taken? (Use approximate date if necessary.)

Describe the action in the photo. (Include full name, rank and unit of those pictured.)

Mail to: **Soldiers, ATTN: Photo Editor, 9325 Gunston Rd., Suite S-108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581.** Photos must have been taken between Aug. 16, 2001, and Aug. 15, 2002. Color prints and slides are acceptable. Photos that are obviously posed or that show obvious uniform or safety violations will be disqualified. Entries cannot be returned and must be postmarked by Sept. 1, 2002. For more information see **Soldiers Online** at www.soldiersmagazine.com.

INDEPENDENCE DAY 2002 *Message*



***To you,
our veterans
and Soldiers
who continue
to make today's
celebration
possible,
we owe our
gratitude and
our promise to
remember
and honor you.***

This Independence Day, we celebrate our Nation's 226th anniversary. In the time since our country's birth, the ideal of liberty—of freedom from oppression and tyranny—has been the guiding light for the millions of Americans whose dedication and personal sacrifice have secured our independence, preserved our liberties, and protected our way of life. Throughout our Nation's proud history, devoted men and women in uniform have secured the rights and freedoms we cherish most dearly, those guaranteed by our Constitution. Many have given their last full measure of devotion to ensure that future generations can live the American Dream.

As we celebrate our history of selfless service this year, Soldiers—the centerpiece of our formations—are again serving in harm's way, on point for the Nation. Soldiers are an essential part of America's efforts to end terrorism, to provide the opportunity for oppressed people to pursue a better life, and to ensure the security of our homeland. They serve in Bosnia, Kosovo, the Sinai, Europe, Korea, the Philippines—in over 120 countries around the globe. They are keeping the peace. They are training. They are doing the heavy lifting as part of the Joint Team fighting terrorism, and they are our “boots on the ground,” providing inspiration to millions who seek better conditions and more opportunities for themselves and for their children.

Whether honored veteran or new recruit, the bravery and selfless service of America's Soldiers have been instrumental to the success of this experiment in democracy that has so convincingly withstood the test of time. And for 227 years, The Army has fulfilled our covenant, our non-negotiable contract, with the American people; when called we will fight and win our Nation's wars, decisively. It is a covenant that millions of men and women have proudly lived up to for more than two hundred years.

To you, our veterans and Soldiers who continue to make today's celebration possible, we owe our gratitude and our promise to remember and honor you. Liberty and freedom are your gifts to the Nation. We thank you, and we salute you.



Eric K. Shinseki
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff



Thomas E. White
Secretary of the Army





ANDY LUMBOHM

LUMBOHM was a four-year letter winner in hockey at the U.S. Military Academy. He received the Henry "Hal" Beukema award as the most-valuable player in 1998 and 1999. After graduation and commissioning in the Army Reserve, Lumbohm signed as a free agent with the San Jose Sharks and currently plays for their farm team, the Cleveland Barons.

